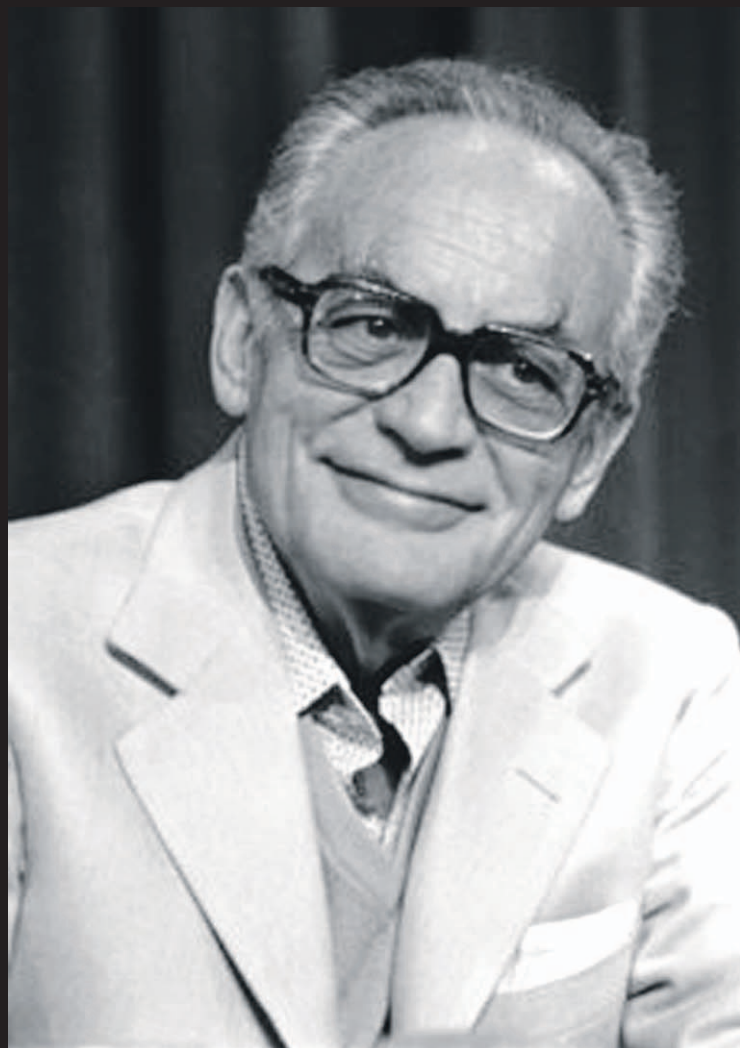


Legislator: Russian officer turned in spies to U.S.

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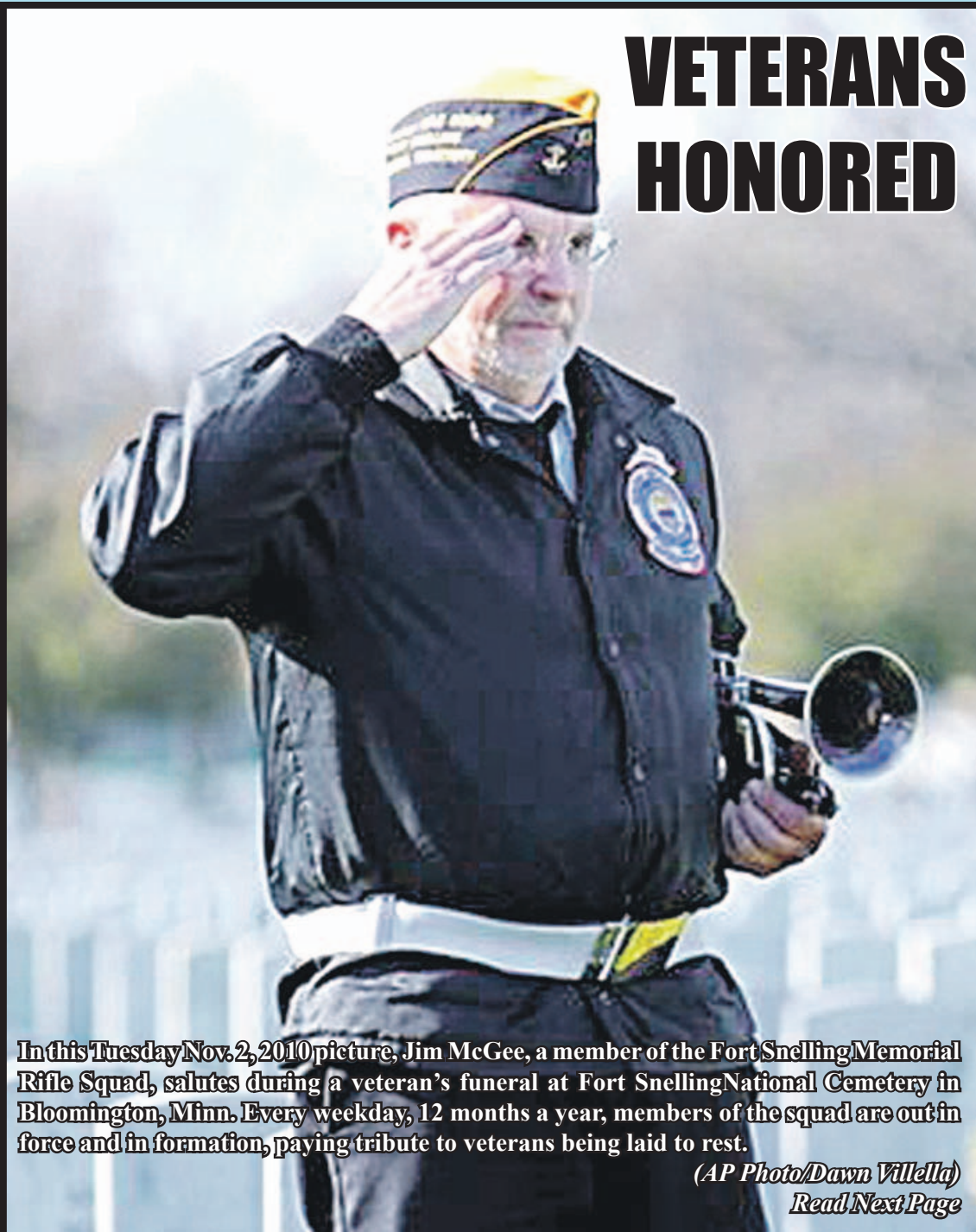
Legendary movie producer Dino De Laurentiis dies at 91



FILE - This May 21, 1984 file photo shows producer Dino de Laurentiis at the Cannes Film Festival in France. De Laurentiis, a film impresario and producer of 'Serpico,' 'Barbarella' and 'Death Wish,' died Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010 at his home in Beverly Hills, Calif. He was 91

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VETERANS HONORED



In this Tuesday Nov. 2, 2010 picture, Jim McGee, a member of the Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad, salutes during a veteran's funeral at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Bloomington, Minn. Every weekday, 12 months a year, members of the squad are out in force and in formation, paying tribute to veterans being laid to rest.

(AP Photo/Dawn Villella)
Read Next Page

Chrysler recalls Jeep SUVs; GM recalls sedans



FILE - In this Nov. 18, 2007 file photo, a long row of 2008 Jeep Liberty SUVs sit outside a Chrysler-Jeep dealership in the west Denver suburb of Golden, Colo. Chrysler said Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010, it is recalling about 16,000 2008 Jeep Liberty SUVs to fix faulty windshield wiper systems.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski, file)

By KEN THOMAS,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — General Motors said Thursday it is recalling nearly 14,000 sedans to address potential problems with the power steering. Chrysler, meanwhile, is recalling about 16,000 Jeep Liberty SUVs to fix faulty windshield wiper systems. GM's recall involves certain 2010 and 2011 model year Cadillac DTS and Buick Lucerne sedans with V8

engines.

The cars have alternator cables that can wear through a power steering line, leading to a fluid leak. A leak could cause a loss of power steering and lead to a crash.

Chrysler's recall involves certain 2008 model year Jeep Liberty SUVs. Water could get into the windshield wiper motor and stop the wipers, which could reduce a driver's visibility and lead to a crash. GM and Chrysler said no

crashes or injuries have been reported in connection to the recalls.

Jeep dealers will replace the windshield wiper motor free of charge.

The recall is expected to begin this month. GM dealers will secure the steering lines and reroute them if necessary to prevent contact with the alternator cable at no cost to owners.

The recall is expected to begin by Nov. 19. □

Rifle squad honors vets with 57,000 goodbyes

MINNEAPOLIS —The bus stops on the cemetery path and the silver-haired men file out, sober-faced and silent amid a sea of white marble tombstones. Some carry rifles, some flags, a few hold bugles. They've all come to say goodbye to a stranger. This is their eighth funeral of the day. They have five more to go.

The men are members of a special fraternity of veterans. Two generations. Three wars. Survivors of places such as Khe Sanh, Chu Lai, Tokyo Bay, the Chosin Reservoir. Recipients of Purple Hearts and Bronze Stars. Now all together, offering a final salute to those who, like them, served long ago.

Their gait may be slower than it once was, their shoulders a bit more stooped, their eyesight not quite as sharp, but every weekday, 12 months a year, in knee-deep snow and blistering heat, the men of the Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad are out in force and in formation, paying tribute to veterans being laid to rest. The volunteer squad travels in its own bus across the vast Fort Snelling National Cemetery, conducting full military honors: The call to arms. The white-gloved salute. Three rounds of rifle shots. The mournful wail of two bugles. The folding of the flag. A few words of thanks to the family. Then one final salute.

It's a sad ceremony, but a celebration, too.

"When you fire those three volleys and play Taps, that's a signal to somebody upstairs that someone special a veteran is on the way there," says Ted Nemzek, an 82-year-old squad member and Korean War vet whose Bronze Star hangs jauntily from his cap. "It's a wonderful way to say goodbye. It's meaningful." He should know.

He and the squad have said goodbye more than 57,000 times.

It began with a man named George Weiss Jr. more than 30 years ago when a friend, a World War II fighter pilot, died and some buddies at the VFW post in the tiny town of



Mendota asked him to gather a rifle squad for the proper military send-off.

Easier said than done.

Weiss had to snag a local high school kid to play the bugle and call in some favors to gather a six-man team. That got him thinking. There had to be others who'd need the tribute. So he began making the rounds to VFW and American Legion halls, pitching the idea.

A squad was born. It has been going ever since.

Weiss, now 82, is the only original survivor, a wiry great-grandfather with a hankering for Harleys (he drove one until he was in his 70s) and a razor-sharp memory of being 17 and so eager to be a part of World War II that he dropped out of high school and joined the Marines. He wound up in China in 1945.

The military, as it turned out, has served as bookends in his life. He took off his Marine uniform as a young man, had a long career at the Ford Motor Co., then in 1979, found himself saluting once more at the squad's first funeral. At 50, he was the youngest member. He's still at it every Friday, donning the squad's official outfit a black jacket with a patch that features the Veterans Affairs eagle emblem, black shoes and tie, white shirt with collar pins and overseas cap. The 128-member squad is divided into five groups; each man volunteers on a

designated weekday.

Weiss, who has attended thousands of funerals, says the goodbyes are especially poignant for those who've outlived family and have few or no mourners. That's most common for World War II vets; on average, 737 die each day across the country, according to the VA.

"Let me put it this way," Weiss says, "last Friday, we had 15 or 16 funerals. Three of them had just one car. One had just one person. Here's someone who had spent time in the military and had protected his country and he had just one mourner. Well, he had 23 members of our squad out there. I know this sounds melodramatic ... but he did not go out alone."

"I don't know if that makes sense to you," he says, "but it does to me."

It does, too, to President Barack Obama.

Last summer, Weiss' contribution earned him an invitation to the White House, where Obama honored him and a dozen others with the Presidential Citizen's Medal, the nation's second-highest honor for civilians.

Weiss savors the memory of that August day and the ego boost of having the president quote and praise him. "I had to make sure my head wasn't too big for my shoulders," he says, his blue eyes sparkling. He had a plan. He would salute the president when he received his medal. "I asked

the Marine captain (if it would be OK) and ... and he said he IS the commander in chief," Weiss recalls.

Weiss did just that, raising his hand in a crisp salute, and was thrilled when Obama returned it and made the day even more special with a "way to go"atta boy.

The squad is now an institution at Fort Snelling, where more than 192,000 veterans (men and women) and their families from as far back as the Civil War are buried. About 20 funerals are held daily.

Squad members receive a schedule of funerals daily, but usually know nothing about the person beyond the branch of service, unless someone has clipped out a newspaper obituary. On rare occasions, there's someone of special distinction, such as one of the Marines who planted the flag at Iwo Jima.

There are other rifle squads across the country, but the Fort Snelling group is believed to be the only all-volunteer one with such a lengthy record of continuous service. It has presided at more than 57,000 funerals, never missing one because of weather. Virtually everyone in the group is retired; members have held almost every kind of job: postmaster, engineer, teacher, firefighter, welder, autoworker, printer, VA hospital director, even the state's former veterans affairs commissioner.

They span all military

branches and more than 30 years in age. Among the most senior is Dick O'Toole, 87, who refused to let a heart defect and a warning at the enlistment office "don't come back even if there's an invasion" stop him. He found a home in the Merchant Marine during World War II. The 'baby' is Tim Gabrio, 59, a ruddy-faced Navy vet who helped rescue 102 downed pilots in Vietnam. He's now disabled, with a leg brace the effects of exposure to Agent Orange.

Like others, Gabrio says he doesn't need to know the names or biographies of those he honors.

"It doesn't matter not knowing them," he says. "It's knowing what they did for their country."

Nemzek, too, says there's an instant kinship with all the men and women he helps bury.

"I know what it's like to be shot at," he says. "I know the experience. I understand what this vet may have been though ... You know what it's like to be damned scared. You know what it's like to have that kind of feeling wondering if you're going to be around tomorrow. It doesn't make any difference whether it's Iraq, Korea or Vietnam. Vets just seem to appreciate other vets."

That goes for squad members themselves.

Each morning before the funerals, they gather in a building on the cemetery grounds to clean their rifles (they used the 1903 Springfield model), play cribbage, swap stories, and share coffee, home-baked goods whipped up by one of their wives and a few laughs. "We're close. Very close," Weiss says. "Closer than brothers."

So much so that each death is mourned like it's a family member. The squad lost five members last year, including one Korean War vet who'd been a longtime prisoner of war. Some men have quit because of illness, but others who've had cancer, diabetes, cataracts, heart and knee surgery keep coming.

Every one has a reason. □

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Experts fear copycat suicides after bullying cases

PHILADELPHIA — The experts call it “contagion” when a suicide or rash of suicides inspires others to follow in an attempt at martyrdom or solidarity in death.

Most people would call them copycat suicides. Whatever the name, it appears to have been at play in at least one suicide since Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi’s highly publicized jump off the George Washington Bridge. And experts fear that other recent suicides might fit the mold or that more are ahead.

That creates a conundrum for advocates who want to stop teenage bullying and their related suicides, as well as for the media outlets that cover them: how to spread the word without romanticizing the problem or unwittingly encouraging vulnerable teenagers to choose death.

“They may see this as a somewhat glamorous ending that the youth got lots of attention, lots of sympathy, lots of national concern that they never got in life,” said Anara Guard, a senior adviser at the Boston-based Suicide Prevention Resource Center. “The second possible factor is that vulnerable youth may feel like, ‘If they couldn’t cut it, neither can I.’”

Someone who’s mentally ill may learn about a suicide and consider it a reasonable option, said Madelyn Gould, professor of psychiatry and public health at Columbia University in New York: “A vulnerable person might say, ‘That stopped the pain,’” she said. Experts say that while contagion is a real issue, it’s getting more difficult to identify.

Ann Haas, director of prevention programs at the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, said that before the Internet, it was relatively easy to track the phenomenon. When several happened within the circulation area of a newspaper, contagion was likely a factor.

But when news knows no geographical boundaries, she said, it’s hard to tell whether the suicides are linked.

And Clementi’s death reached farther than most suicide stories do.

Authorities say the 18-year-old killed himself after learning that his Rutgers roommate and another student peeked via webcam as he had an intimate encounter with a man. His death followed a string of suicides by teens nationwide believed to have been bullied for their perceived sexual orientation and quickly became a cause celebre.

A pair of issues long known to gay rights advocates and suicide prevention experts soon became more widely known: Gay, lesbian,

bisexual and transgender youth are more likely to attempt suicide than their straight counterparts. And bullied youths are more likely to try suicide than those who aren’t.

“There was no way that Tyler Clementi’s death was not going to be covered,” said Columbia University’s Gould. “He jumped from the George Washington Bridge, and he mobilized the need for a lot of prevention efforts. It’s a good aftermath of a horribly tragic event.”

President Barack Obama and talk show host Ellen DeGeneres posted videos online calling for an end to bullying. One day last month became “Wear Purple Day” to protest bullying. New Jersey lawmakers touted anti-bullying legislation that took on more urgency after Clementi’s death.

Then, last week, a Pennsylvania teenager stepped in front of a tractor-trailer, leaving behind a note saying that he was tired of being called “faggot” and “sissy” and that he wanted to draw more attention to the problem of bullying.

By the count of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, it was at least the sixth suicide of a young person in the U.S. who was gay or tormented for being gay since Clementi’s death. Experts wonder whether the latest cases are at least partly reactions to the Rutgers case and the only people who know for sure are the victims.

Scholars can’t say whether either problem is getting more severe or just more widely reported because no data show what percentage of gay youths or bullying victims are suicidal. Most of the nation’s 34,000 suicides a year don’t get coverage.

Or, perhaps, the suicides are like those that have been happening all along, but these are attracting media attention because of the new focus on the previously neglected problem of bullying-related suicide.

Laura McGinnis, spokeswoman for The Trevor Project, which runs crisis intervention and suicide prevention programs aimed at gay youths, said that since Clementi’s death her group’s crisis hot line has handled about 75 percent more calls than usual. Requests from schools and community leaders for “survival kits” have spiked even more, she said.

It’s important for people who are feeling suicidal to know where to turn to for help, whether it’s a hot line, a friend or a hospital, she said.

“There are people out there who can help you, who are willing to listen, to help you be the person you feel inside that you are,” she said. □



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Old West Point applicant letters being put online

ALBANY, N.Y. — Years before leading his vastly outnumbered troops to their doom at Little Bighorn, a young George Armstrong Custer was described as accurate in math.

Nearly 30 years before his March to the Sea laid waste to a large swath of Georgia, William Tecumseh Sherman was deemed a “fine energetic boy.”

And two decades before he would earn the nickname “Stonewall,” Thomas J. Jackson’s dreams of a military career got a boost from a man who would help start the Civil War.

Those are some of the tidbits gleaned from more than 115,000 U.S. Military Academy application documents being posted online for the first time by Ancestry.com. The Provo, Utah-based

genealogy website said Tuesday that the information can be viewed for free starting Thursday Veterans Day through Sunday.

After Sunday, it will cost \$12.95 a month for unlimited access to the West Point records and the website’s more than 100 million military documents, company officials said.

The oldest West Point documents being posted online date to 1805, three years after the academy’s founding, and run through 1866, a year after the Civil War ended. The records and other related documents from that period were culled from the National Archives in Washington, D.C., said Quinton Atkinson, director of content acquisition for Ancestry.com.

The documents represent some 16,000 individuals accepted

into the Corps of Cadets, he said. Missing from the collection are the application records of notables such as Edgar Allen Poe, who briefly attended West Point, and Robert E. Lee, who graduated in 1829, Atkinson said.

“These are the rich aspects of the research that you can add to the more fundamental tree-building that family historians do,” Atkinson told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. “You can understand who these people were.”

Back then, as it is now, the process for applying for admission to West Point included being nominated by a member of Congress. Lawmakers, governors, guardians, businessmen and other prominent citizens in a prospective cadet’s home state would write recommendation



letters. Although the handwritten letters are often hard to decipher, they can offer insights on how others viewed the budding military leaders, Atkinson said.

Ohio Congressman John Bingham, in his 1856 nomination letter for Custer, described the then-17-year-old as being a shade under 5-foot-10, with “no deformity.” Custer, Bingham wrote, “reads well, spells correctly, writes a fair and legible hand, able to perform with facility and accuracy the ground rules of arithmetic ...”

A letter written in 1835 by Sherman’s guardian referred to the future Union general, then 16, as “a good scholar and a fine energetic boy.”

Thomas J. Jackson was seeking acceptance to West Point in 1842 when a South Carolina politician wrote a letter to the academy on Jackson’s behalf. Jackson graduated four years later. In April 1861, that politician Francis W. Pickens was governor of South Carolina when he approved the bombardment of Fort Sumter in Charleston,

the opening salvos of the Civil War.

Three months later in Manassas, Va., Jackson earned the nickname “Stonewall” when his Virginia brigade repulsed a Union assault during the First Battle of Bull Run.

And George Pickett, the Confederate officer who would find immortality leading what became known as Pickett’s Charge at the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863, gave an early hint of his vanity in a letter he wrote to President James Polk in 1845, seeking admission to West Point.

“I am a young man, nineteen years old, six feet tall and moderately good-looking (as I am told),” Pickett wrote.

Atkinson said, “I guess you could surmise that he was moderately modest.”

The National Archives doesn’t have West Point’s application records beyond 1866, Atkinson said. West Point is believed to have those records, he said.

Calls to West Point’s public information office for comment on the project weren’t immediately returned. □

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After tight race, Oakland has first female mayor

OAKLAND, Calif. — City Councilwoman Jean Quan edged a heavily favored opponent to become Oakland's first female mayor and the first Asian American woman to lead a major U.S. city, in a race she says people will be "studying for a long time."

Alameda County elections officials spent days tallying votes before announcing Wednesday that Quan received 51 percent to former state Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata's 49 percent. "We've been waiting 158 years to have a woman mayor," Quan said to cheers on the steps of City Hall after learning of her win. "We've been waiting over 200 years to have an Asian American woman as mayor of a major American city. And, we've been waiting about four years to get ranked-choice voting. "This is a race people are going to be studying for a long time."

Votes were counted under Oakland's new ranked-choice system, which allows voters to list their first, second and third-place candidates.

Quan, 61, replaces outgoing Mayor Ronald Dellums, who chose not to seek a second term.

Perata held a double-digit lead over Quan when first-choice returns were counted last week.

"Having won over 11,000 more first-choice votes than his nearest rival, these numbers need to be scrutinized carefully, and spoken to carefully," Perata spokesman Rhys Williams

said Wednesday. "No decision has been taken on next steps." Perata is scheduled to hold a news conference Thursday outside an Oakland police station.

Quan captured the lead late last week when the third-place finisher, Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan, was eliminated and votes cast for her were reapportioned to Quan and Perata.

Quan, an Oakland native and former school board member, also won despite losing out on key endorsements from the Bay Area's two largest newspapers, the Oakland Tribune (Kaplan) and the San Francisco Chronicle (Perata). She credited her win to being visible and to using relentless voter outreach, including attending more than 200 house parties, to combat being heavily outspent by Perata.

"This is really a proud moment for Oakland's grassroots

organizing," Quan said.

Joe Tuman, a San Francisco State University communications professor who was one of 10 candidates vying to be mayor, agreed that Quan's tireless work ethic played a roll in her victory and would serve her well during the next four years.

"Every day I was in house meetings, booked solid from morning until 10 o'clock at night, and wherever I was, Jean was there, too," Tuman said.

"She hustles. If you contrast that with Don, it's not a criticism of him, it's a reality. He consciously avoided participating in lots of events." Quan will inherit a shrinking city budget that includes a \$50 million deficit next fiscal year, a violent crime rate that's showing some signs of decline, yet overlooked due to 80 police officers being laid off in July.



As she did as councilwoman, Quan also will face increased demands to attract new businesses to town and boost civic morale.

"She won a bitterly contested election. It's important for everybody to fall in behind her and support her," Tuman said. "We have huge problems, and I hope she will not only try

to solve them by herself, but know there are a lot of people who want to help."

That will be important in a city that according to Census figures is 36 percent black, 31 percent white, 21 percent Hispanic and 15 percent Asian. "This is a victory for all of Oakland," Quan said. "This was a very close race." □



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Rape charge dropped after accuser commits suicide



HURON TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Samantha Kelly endured merciless taunting from classmates after they learned that the high school freshman had accused a senior of rape. The weeks of harassment eventually became too much. Samantha went home from school Monday and hanged herself in this community southwest of Detroit. With their key witness dead, prosecutors on Wednesday dropped criminal charges against the older student, saying they had no case without the accuser's testimony. Samantha's mother screamed

at 18-year-old Joseph Tarnopolski after his brief court appearance and had to be restrained by a relative. She told reporters she was not consulted about the decision to dismiss the third-degree criminal sexual conduct charge. "My daughter did not get any justice," June Justice said. Tarnopolski told the Detroit Free Press he was sorry to hear of the girl's death. He told Detroit station WJBK Samantha was "a friend" and felt "a little bit" responsible, but said others were behind any taunts. "If she was getting ridiculed,

it's not because it me," Tarnopolski said. "It's because of somebody else."

Samantha's accusations became known to many of her neighbors and classmates after she and her mother spoke to a local television station about the matter. Samantha's face was blocked out, but word of her allegations quickly spread. "People wanted to beat her up people who were friends of Joe," said Ayla Raines, who also attended Huron High School. "Not to her face. She heard from other people that they wanted to beat her up." Another student, Calie Bouchard, said 14-year-old Samantha was confronted once in the lunch room by a group of girls who insisted she was lying. "She started breaking down in tears," Calie said. Principal Donovan Rowe said school officials investigated the alleged bullying and found nothing overt. Rowe said on occasion he walked behind Samantha as she went from class to class and witnessed no harassment. Huron Township police said

Justice brought her daughter to the station on Sept. 27, a day after the encounter with Tarnopolski, to file a sexual assault report. At the time it was considered a statutory rape case, meaning the pair had consensual sex but that she was under the age of consent. Tarnopolski told WJBK that he had sex with Samantha, but it was a "mutual thing." Justice also met with school officials and asked to keep the matter confidential, the principal said. Initially, he added, there was no animosity between the two families. School officials said they were blindsided by the Oct. 18 television report in which Justice criticized administrators for not taking action to protect her daughter. Before the story aired on WJBK, Justice "was pretty complimentary of us," Rowe said. "She indicated she wanted to move her daughter to another school, but Samantha wanted to stay here." Samantha had not been at school for about two weeks

before returning Monday morning with her mother. "Her mom had mentioned some harassment," Rowe said. "I asked her specifically if it was happening here. She said no. It was happening in the trailer park." Samantha told close friends she was constantly being intimidated. "She told me she was being extremely bullied, and it was extremely stressful," said 16-year-old Devyn Waldecker, a neighbor in the Huron Estates mobile home park. "People bumped into her in the hallways at school. On two occasions after school, people tried to jump her." Waldecker, who attends another school, wanted to help the girl she had befriended just this past June, but "really didn't know what to do." "I told her I was there for her anything she needed from me," Waldecker said. Samantha didn't deserve such an ordeal, said Devyn's mother, Shannon Waldecker. "Sam was a very sweet, soft-spoken person and very honest." □

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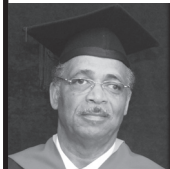
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Aruba kick off 57th Carnival celebrations

11-11 at 11:11 am Aruba kicked off Carnival 2011



Aruba kicked off the island's largest party yesterday for the 57th annual carnival celebration.

Aruba's carnival celebration is scheduled to go on through February and is described as "a colorful event, during which music and extravagant costumes take center stage" by Aruba's tourism officials.

The several month-long festival consists of street parties, festive parades and creative contests for locals and visitors alike. Parties are held in various districts throughout the month, giving everyone the opportunity to participate and dance to Aruba's most popular brass band, steel band and road march tunes.



"Carnival is one of Aruba's most important and vibrant celebrations," said Gina Lopez, public relations director for the Aruba Tourism Authority. "It is a great opportunity for both the local people and visitors to get involved in these exciting cultural events, giving visitors a true inside look into the color, flare and enthusiasm of the Aruban people."

The main attractions include events like the Carnival Queen Election, where Aruba elects one of its most important

Carnival representatives, the Aruba Carnival Queen. Aruba's Tivoli Lighting Parade in downtown Oranjestad one of the favorite parades and incorporates thousands of tiny lights into costumes, road pieces and floats, bringing an added dramatic effect to the extravagant display. Aruba's now incorporates the Annual Tourist Night at Paseo Herencia, featuring steel band music and some of the best costumes featured during Carnival.

The carnival's biggest event

is the 57th Grand Carnival Parade, an all-day event, which winds its way down city avenues to the delight of thousands of spectators. The Grand Parade is promising to deliver a day filled with music and festive floats and costumes in imaginative designs and decorated with a wide variety of colorful stones and feathers, creating a unique display.

The parade will start at 11:00 am in Oranjestad and will continue into the evening hours. □



Guests honored at the Costa Linda Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently Judith & Judson Van der Wal and Jane & James Eldredge were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism

as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given

the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honoring was effected by



the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Costa Linda Resort, where they call their home away from home. Judith & Judson Van der Wal and Jane & James Eldredge were

honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill for the Island of Aruba.

Pictured: ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with Gloria and also honorees at the Costa Linda Resort

Would you like to adopt me?

Azzy is on the look-out for friends and family



We would like to introduce Azzy to you, one of the donkeys that is cared for at the Aruba Donkey Foundation. Two years ago she was found sauntering in the middle of the road, together with three other donkeys, in Santa Lucia. That was too dangerous with so much traffic there. The volunteers of the sanctuary lured the four donkeys inside with treats, where they have stayed. Azzy has a malformed behind and one of the volunteers has renamed her Jennifer Lopez, Jay Lo. She listens to that nickname even better than to her real name Azzy. She is a quiet donkey who has made friends with donkey Cloudy; they are always together. Donkeys are that way, very faithful. They often have a friend (boyfriend or girlfriend) for life.

They are truly grieving when they lose their good friend, for whatever reason.

Azzy has a chip, just like the other donkeys. This way she can be recognized. The donkeys at the sanctuary are well-cared for: they get their food and drink and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers. The volunteers try to cover the cost through organizing all kinds of activities and by selling nice souvenirs in the store. Fortunately there are visitors who adopt a donkey now and then, who donate money or who buy something in the store. They help keep the sanctuary afloat that way.

The volunteers are now looking for people who wish to adopt Azzy. Azzy will stay there, of course; the only thing that is needed is AWG. 30,-- per month pays for her keep. In this way you help support this wonderful donkey as well as the sanctuary. You will receive a nice document and a super T-shirt. And if you like, your name and photo will be posted on our website.

Please call the donkey foundation at 595-2933 and become Azzy's new family; you can also register as an adoptive parent via our website www.arubadonkey.org or deposit a donation on our Aruba Bank account 40.03.025.



Special friends honored at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort



NOORD - Recently at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the

Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority Associate Ricardo Croes at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort, where they call their home away from home. Mrs. Edith



Henselmann, Barbara & Carl Johanntges and also Mrs. Anna Flummer were honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill after visiting Aruba for more then 20 years. Pictured: Mr. Ricardo Croes from ATA with honorees and also STAFF from the Caribbean Palm Village Resort. □



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Susan & Robert celebrate 25 years of marriage

Corrado family exchange renewal of vows



EAGLE BEACH – Reverend Gibson officiated the most romantic ceremony earlier this week just on the cutting edge of a rain storm on Monday, Nov 8, 2010. Robert Corrado met his wife Susan over 26 years ago and fell in love and got married 6 months later. Their parents were both supportive, but both worried that we were rushing into this. Well they proved them all wrong. “We are more in love now than any time before and our love keeps growing every day. We both live by the words that marriage is a work in progress, and you can never forget that. You always must believe in each other, trust each other and most of all love each other in different ways every day. One of my biggest and greatest love for my wife is her smile. I need to see her smile every day, every minute we are together. Sometimes I get carried away and we can just be sitting on the couch quietly and I will jump up and start kissing her madly. I think she likes it??? Hehehe I do the same with my daughter, but it usually involves throwing a pillow at her or something annoying, but no matter what my girls are always smiling or laughing. Life is too short not to have fun.

Susan is a wonderful mother, wife, cook, teacher, home maker, daughter, sister and



wears all those hats without blinking an eye.”

Robert says, “My son is me and then some. He is better looking, smarter and loves life more than anyone I know. I have a big trait from my father who I pass down to my son.” Robert’s mother used to say “Life your life! Enjoy your life! Love your life!” and we

all do.”

“Reverend Gibson, if either of our children needed a heart, both my wife and I would be fighting over whose heart they would get. Our life is our family.”

The renewal of vows was witnessed by Robert and Susan’s children Emila and Michael Corrado. □



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Sunni walkout mars Iraq parliament session

BARBARA SURK
BUSHRA JUHI

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's president gave Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki the nod to form the next government Thursday after an eight-month deadlock, keeping him in his post despite a dramatic Sunni walkout from parliament that demonstrated the deep distrust between the two sides.

The walkout and the fact that it came just one day after an accord was forged to work together dealt a blow to hopes for a unified government — especially one that ensures continued Shiite domination while giving Sunnis a role far short of the greater political power they seek.

Sunni support is crucial. The Americans had been pushing for them to have a significant role, fearing that otherwise, disillusioned Sunnis could turn to the insurgency, fueling new violence as the last of U.S. troops prepare to leave by the end of next year.

The power-sharing deal reached Wednesday night was heralded by some politicians as a breakthrough, ending the months of wrangling since the inconclusive March 7 parliament elections. But Sunnis were already accusing al-Maliki of not fulfilling promises and have warned they could pull out if they are not met.

At a press conference after the walkout, a lawmaker from the Sunni-backed Iraqiya bloc, Haider al-Mulla, did not answer when asked whether the bloc would participate in the government. Instead, he said Iraqiya would seek “explanations from al-Maliki and State of Law over their broken commitments.”

The session was called so lawmakers could take the first formal steps toward forming the new government by naming senior leadership positions. It began with a show of unity, as al-Maliki and his top rival, Iraqiya's leader Ayad Allawi, sat next to each other in the chamber, smiling and chatting.

The first vote went smoothly, with a Sunni from Allawi's



Former Iraqi prime minister Ayad Allawi, center, and members of his Sunni-backed coalition are seen as they walk out of Iraq's parliament session in a protest before a vote on the presidency in Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010.

Associated Press

Iraqiya block, Osama al-Nujaifi, elected parliament speaker. But before the vote to elect a president, about 57 Iraqiya lawmakers walked out. They had demanded that lawmakers first vote to reverse a ban on three of the blocs' members by a committee charged with rooting out members of Saddam Hussein's regime from government posts. Their demand was rejected.

Iraqiya lawmakers have said that as part of the power-sharing deal, the other factions agreed to get rid of the controversial De-Baathification law entirely within two years. Sunnis view the De-Baathification process as a thinly veiled Shiite attempt to bar Sunnis from returning to power.

Despite the walkout — which Allawi joined — lawmakers proceeded with the session

and elected Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani as president for a second term. Talabani addressed the lawmakers remaining in the parliament hall, declaring: “Today is a day of victory, the victory of the free Iraqi will.”

He then formally requested al-Maliki form a new government. Al-Maliki has 30 days to do so, as the factions work out the allotment of ministry positions, including

key posts like foreign affairs and the interior ministry in charge of security forces.

A Shiite lawmaker from al-Maliki's alliance said the walkout was a surprise and emphasizes the suspicions that still define relations between Shiites and Sunnis who used to fight out their political differences on the streets with guns. But with or without Iraqiya, the political process would go on, he said. “We have a parliament, an elected president and a candidate to form a government. There is no way back,” said Abdul-Hadi al-Hassani.

The Sunni minority had put great hopes in the March elections and succeeded in lifting their bloc to a narrow victory: Allawi's Sunni-backed Iraqiya coalition won the most seats in the March elections, but not a majority. Al-Maliki, whose State of Law party came in second, cobbled together alliances with Iranian-backed religious Shiite parties, gathering enough seats to thwart Allawi's bids for either the prime minister job and the presidency.

Instead, Allawi is to lead a newly created council to oversee issues of security and foreign policy. But the council's powers remain vague, and already there were signs of a fight brewing over the extent of its authority.

Iraqiya lawmaker Falah al-Nakeed said the council would be a 20-member body including the prime minister but headed by Allawi. He said all strategic decisions over security, foreign policy and anything concerning the “destiny” of the country, would have to be passed unanimously by the council.

“It will be a real check on al-Maliki's power,” al-Nakeed said. But lawmakers from al-Maliki's State of Law bloc implied that was not the case. Al-Maliki is unlikely to give up the reins over security issues, and one of his key Shiite partners — the staunchly anti-American Sadrist movement — also appears to be angling for a hand as well. □

Israel tells its citizens to leave Egyptian Sinai

MARK LAVIE

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's government on Thursday told its citizens to immediately leave Egypt's Sinai desert because of a kidnapping threat from the Army of Islam, after Egyptian security rounded up suspected militants and confiscated explosives.

Egyptian security officials said they arrested members of a cell planning to attack Israelis and international forces in Sinai.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to reporters, said police carried out raids in three cities in Sinai and seized explosives.

They did not identify the cell, but said the militants planned to attack Israeli tourists in southern Sinai during the upcoming Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, which starts Tuesday,

as well as the foreign peacekeeping forces.

The officials said they received an intelligence tip from Israel about the group.

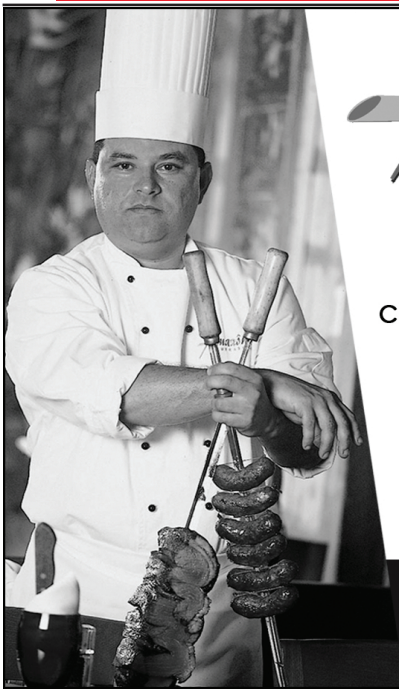
The travel warning was issued late Thursday by the Israeli Prime Minister's office.

The warning quoted “reliable and current intelligence” about a kidnapping plot and called on “all Israelis in Sinai to leave immediately and return to Israel.”

The Sinai desert with its Red Sea coast, located next to Israel, is a favorite vacation spots for Israelis.

Because of past attacks, Israel's government issues periodic travel warnings about the territory.

In October 2004, 34 people, most of them Israelis, were killed when suicide bombers blew up the Taba Hilton Hotel in Sinai, just across the Israeli border, as well as a popular campsite. □



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Legislator: Russian officer turned in spies to U.S.

JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) —

A Russian legislator specializing in national security on Thursday confirmed a newspaper report that a top intelligence official helped the United States arrest 10 Russian spies this summer.

The agents were taken into custody in June, several days after a U.S. visit by Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. They were exchanged for four Russians who had been convicted of espionage in their own country. It was the largest spy swap between the countries since the end of the Cold War.

The respected daily Kommersant cited unidentified sources as identifying the Russian official only as Col. Shcherbakov, who it said headed the American section of a Foreign Intelligence Service division specializing in sleeper agents.

Gennady Gudkov, a member of the Russian parliament's national security committee, later said "Shcherbakov turned over our agents in the U.S.A. ... I knew of this long before the publication today in Kommersant."

Gudkov could not be reached for elaboration,

including how he knew of Shcherbakov's alleged involvement. His quotes, originally reported by the Interfax news agency, were confirmed by his office.

The newspaper cited a source in the Kremlin administration as saying that Shcherbakov's whereabouts were known and that a "Mercader" had been sent for him — referring to Ramon Mercader, the Soviet agent who murdered Leon Trotsky in Mexico in 1940.

The foreign intelligence service, known by the initials SVR, and Russia's Foreign Ministry declined comment on the report. In Washington, U.S. Justice Department spokesman Dean Boyd, FBI spokesman Paul Bresson and CIA spokesman George Little all declined comment on the report.

According to the newspaper, Shcherbakov, who reportedly has a daughter living in the United States, went to America three days before the start of Medvedev's visit. The newspaper said the sources characterized him as fleeing, but it was unclear how they knew the trip was not simply a personal or professional visit.

After the arrest of the 10 Russian spies, a U.S.

prosecutor said they had been under surveillance for years. The extent of Shcherbakov's alleged aid in the arrests was not clear from the Kommersant account.

The newspaper cited the sources as saying that Shcherbakov visited one of the arrested spies, Mikhail Vasenkov, in jail to urge him to confess. Vasenkov, who went by the alias Juan Lazaro, insisted he was not Russian, and Shcherbakov then presented Vasenkov's dossier to American authorities, the newspaper said.

The Russian spies were so-called "sleeper agents," who go under the cover of civilians as opposed to spies working through embassies and military missions.

Although they had lived in the United States for years, it was unclear if any of them provided significant information to their bosses in Russia.

They were charged only with acting as unregistered foreign agents rather than with espionage, possibly an indication they had dug up only low-quality intelligence.

Russian officials initially suggested the arrests were initiated by conservative elements in the United States who wanted to undermine improving



Georgian Interior Ministry seen in Tbilisi, Georgia, Friday, Nov. 5, 2010. Georgia's government on Friday announced the arrests of 13 people, including four Russian citizens, who are accused of spying for Russia's armed forces.

Associated Press

Washington-Moscow the ring, who went by the name Christopher Metsos, scandal has not appeared to remain at large. He was have long-term diplomatic arrested in Cyprus, but or political consequences. disappeared after being One alleged member of released on bail. □

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Reputed Canadian mafia patriarch killed

MONTREAL (AP) — An 86-year-old alleged Mafia patriarch was gunned down as he sat gazing out of the solarium of his Montreal home, authorities said, the latest blow to a once-formidable Canadian criminal organization.

Nicolo Rizzuto was shot at least once at around 5:40 p.m. EST on Wednesday, according to police, and was taken to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced dead shortly after he arrived. The family and its associates have been targeted in a series of slayings that observers say is an attempt to end its hold on power. Nick Rizzuto Jr., Nicolo's grandson, was shot to death outside his Montreal

home last Dec. 28.

Montreal police spokesman Raphael Bergeron told The Associated Press on Thursday that Rizzuto was shot by a lone gunman who was hiding in the woods outside Rizzuto's residence.

Bergeron said Rizzuto was in his solarium — adorned with a statue of the Virgin Mary, her arms outstretched — looking out to a view of the backyard bushes when the bullet shot through a window.

Bergeron He said two women were at the residence at the time, who were treated for shock. He said he believed it was Rizzuto's wife and daughter but could not immediately confirm that.

Montreal police Cmdr. Denis

Mainville said it was difficult to say just how much clout the elder Rizzuto still had within the family, but he was a symbolic and revered figure.

"We know that Mr. Rizzuto was an important member of the Italian Mafia, but new players have surfaced in recent months," Mainville said.

Nicolo Rizzuto's son, Vito, is currently in prison in Colorado for racketeering related to three Mafia murders. Police said late Wednesday that they would be open to meeting with Vito Rizzuto about a series of attacks against his family. The Rizzutos came to prominence in Montreal with a violent coup against the Cotroni family, their Calabrian rivals, in the 1970s. They had tentacles reaching into untold businesses considered legitimate, including bars, restaurants and construction companies.

The clan was brought to its knees in a massive 2006 police dragnet in which scores of alleged mobsters were arrested. It appears to have received its coup de grace over the last year with a series of slayings that crime analysts consider an attempt to end its hold on power.

Nick Rizzuto Jr., Vito's son and Nicolo's grandson and namesake, was shot to death outside his Montreal home last Dec. 28.

Paolo Renda, 70, a top lieutenant and a member of the Rizzuto family by marriage, mysteriously vanished close to his Montreal home in May. Renda was considered the No. 3 in the operation, the "consigliere" or councilor, and is married to Nicolo



In this Oct. 16, 2008 photo, convicted Montreal crime boss Nicolo Rizzuto leaves a prison in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Rizzuto, the reputed patriarch of Canada's most famous Mafia family, was shot and killed at his Montreal home Wednesday night, Nov. 10, 2010, a police source said.

Associated Press

Rizzuto Sr.'s daughter, Maria. Another high-ranking member, Agostino Cuntrera, was gunned down in June.

One Canadian Mafia expert said the motives behind the slaying couldn't be clearer.

"I don't know who killed Nicolo Rizzuto, but whoever did it wants to remove the Rizzuto crime family from the Canadian underworld map," Antonio Nicaso, an author and journalist, said from Toronto. "I think with his murder, it's like an end of an era in the Canadian underworld."

The upscale Montreal neighborhood was blocked off

by police tape and crawling with police cars. Police were searching a forested area behind the home for clues.

A neighbor expressed surprise at the news of Nicolo's killing. Although other members of the family had been killed or disappeared in recent months, he thought the great-grandpa would be spared.

"Not with the old man. He was 86 years old, you figure he's out of the situation," said the neighbor, who identified himself as Paul.

"I don't know why they went to that extent of going after the old fella." □



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Some U.S. rebuilding money finally headed to Haiti

JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The first portion of U.S. reconstruction money for Haiti is on its way more than seven months after it was promised to help the country rebuild from the Jan. 12 earthquake.

The U.S. government will transfer \$120 million — about one-tenth of the total amount pledged — to the World Bank-run Haiti Reconstruction Fund in the next few days, U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said.

“Having completed the process as outlined in the appropriation, we are now moving aggressively to commit that money to Haiti’s reconstruction,” Crowley said. A State Department aide said money destined for the fund would go toward rubble removal, housing, a partial credit guarantee fund, support for an Inter-American Development Bank education reform plan and budget support for the Haitian government. The fund’s projects must be endorsed by the reconstruction commission co-chaired by former President Bill Clinton. The U.S. money will nearly double the current reconstruction fund, into which eight other countries have contributed \$135 million. It is to arrive almost exactly 10 months after the earthquake destroyed most of

Haiti’s capital and surrounding areas and killed an estimated 230,000 to 300,000 people.

Crowley told reporters at a Tuesday briefing that the money had been sent from the State Department to the Treasury Department for delivery.

The funds are part of a \$1.15 billion pledge made by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton at the March 31 U.N. donors conference for Haiti. Pledged for fiscal year 2010, which ended in September, the money has faced several delays.

It wasn’t until July that Congress appropriated nearly the entire amount pledged, \$917 million, in a bill signed by President Barack Obama. But without an authorization bill or an approved spending plan, none of it could not be released.

The authorization bill was blocked by Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma. When his hold was reported by The Associated Press, the senator’s office initially said he objected to a provision creating a U.S. policy coordinator position that would cost \$5 million over five years. Later he said he objected to a lack of cuts in other programs to offset the money spent in Haiti. That bill has never been voted on.

The spending plan was given to congressional committees in September and approved in October, when it was held

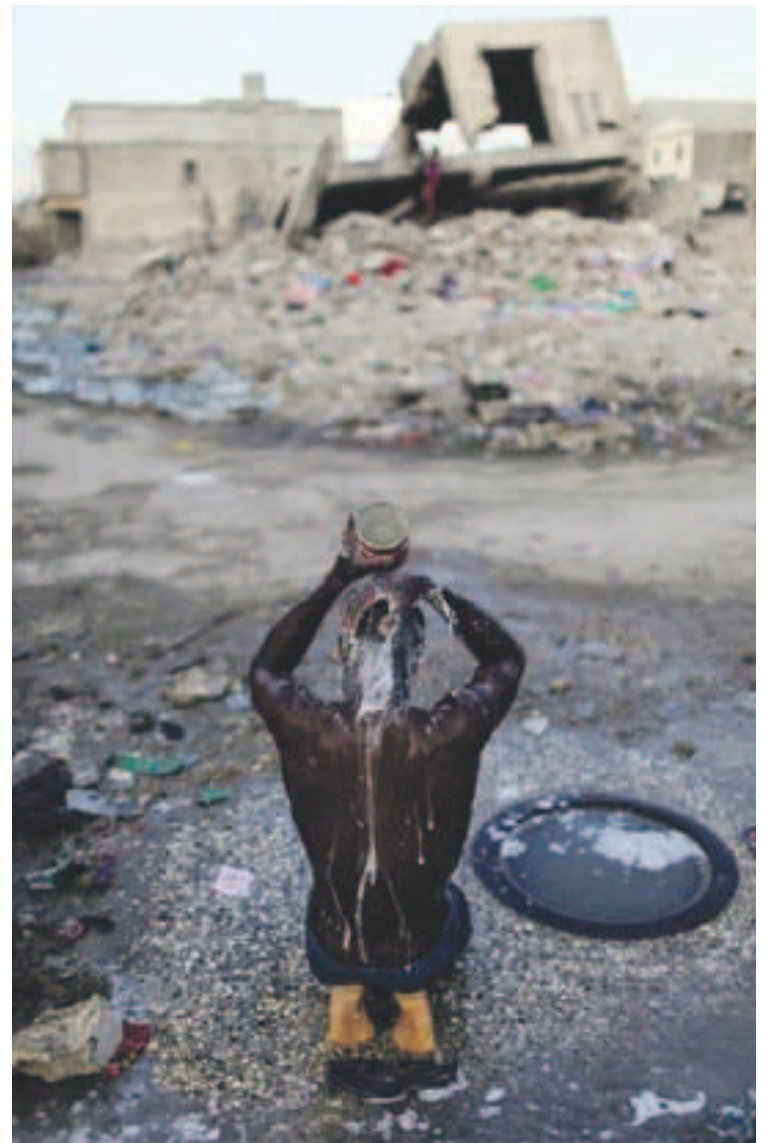
up amid checks to make sure the money would not be lost to corruption, the State Department told AP. It is not clear if the other, nearly \$800 million from the appropriations bill, has cleared that process.

The United States spent more than \$1.1 billion in humanitarian aid for Haiti this year, most in the first weeks after the disaster. The reconstruction pledge is a different pool of money, intended to support long-term rebuilding of the nation and its economy.

The Secretary of State told the U.N. conference in March that if the effort to rebuild was “slow or insufficient, if it is marked by conflict, lack of coordination or lack of transparency, then the challenges that have plagued Haiti for years could erupt with regional and global consequences.”

Nearly all the countries present at that conference have been slow in delivering on their promises since.

Less than 38 percent of the \$5.6 billion pledged for 2010-11 has been delivered. Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland, the Caribbean Development Bank — and, until the money arrives, the U.S. — have yet to give any of their promised funds, according to Bill Clinton’s U.N. Office of the Special Envoy for Haiti.



A man bathes with water collected from a puddle in a street of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday Nov. 8, 2010.

Associated Press

After 10 months living among piles of rubble, more than 1 million without homes and their country now being ravaged by a cholera epidemic, many Haitians have lost faith that the pledged money will help, even if all of it does arrive. “This money is going

to be for the rich people,” said Lonise Atilma, who lives in a tent camp in the impoverished Martissant district of Port-au-Prince. “We have been living in a tent since Jan. 12 ... We are still there, suffering, and we’re not going to see this money.” □

Bomb rocks Pakistan’s largest city killing 15

SHAKIL ADIL,

Associated Press

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Militants attacked a police compound in the heart of Pakistan’s largest city on Thursday with a hail of gunfire and a massive car bomb, leveling the building and killing at least 15 people, authorities and witnesses said. The gang of around six gunmen managed to penetrate a high-security area of Karachi that is home to the U.S. Consulate, two luxury hotels and the offices of regional leaders.

While no stranger to extremist violence, Karachi has not witnessed this kind of organized assault in recent

years.

It was the first major attack against a government target outside the northwestern tribal regions for several months, showing the reach of Islamist militants seeking to overthrow the U.S.-allied government despite efforts to crack down on them over the last three years.

The gunmen first opened fire on the offices of the Crime Investigation Department before detonating a huge car bomb, said Sindh Home Minister Zulfiqar Mirza. The building has a detention facility that was believed to be holding criminals, and possibly militants.

The CID takes the lead in hunting down terrorists in Karachi. Earlier this week, the agency arrested six members of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, an al-Qaida linked group blamed for several high profile attacks in recent years. The suspects were presented before a court earlier Thursday.

The blast could be heard several miles away in the city of 14 million people. It destroyed much of the multistory police building, damaged nearby houses and left a 10-foot wide crater in the road. The U.S. Consulate was around a mile away, but was undamaged.

“We heard different kinds of



A view of devastation caused by bomb explosion in Karachi, Pakistan on Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. A powerful bomb in the center of Pakistan’s largest city leveled a police building, killing scores of people and wounding many, police and witnesses said.

firing for several minutes and then a deafening explosion,” said Ali Hussain, who was covered in dust.

“The roof of our house

collapsed.”

Bloodied and dazed victims were taken to ambulances, some of them children pulled from the debris. □

Palestinian blogger held for Facebook criticism of Islam



In this Nov. 10, 2010 photo, a Palestinian man uses a computer at an Internet cafe in the West Bank city of Bethlehem.

DIAA HADID

Associated Press

QALQILIYA, West Bank (AP) — A mysterious blogger who set off an uproar in the Arab world by claiming he was God and hurling insults at the Prophet Muhammad is now behind bars — caught in a sting that used Facebook to track him down.

The case of the unlikely apostate, a shy barber from this backwater West Bank town, is highlighting the limits of tolerance in the Western-backed Palestinian

Authority — and illustrating a new trend by authorities in the Arab world to mine social media for evidence.

Residents of Qalqiliya say they had no idea that Walid Husayin — the 26-year-old son of a Muslim scholar — was leading a double life.

Known as a quiet man who prayed with his family each Friday and spent his evenings working in his father's barbershop, Husayin was secretly posting anti-religion rants on the Internet during his free time. Now, he

faces a potential life prison sentence on heresy charges for "insulting the divine essence." Many in this conservative Muslim town say he should be killed for renouncing Islam, and even family members say he should remain behind bars for life. "He should be burned to death," said Abdul-Latif Dahoud, a 35-year-old Qalqiliya resident. The execution should take place in public "to be an example to others," he added.

Over several years, Husayin is suspected of posting arguments in favor of atheism on English and Arabic blogs, where he described the God of Islam as having the attributes of a "primitive Bedouin." He called Islam a "blind faith that grows and takes over people's minds where there is irrationality and ignorance."

If that wasn't enough, he is also suspected of creating three Facebook groups in which he sarcastically declared himself God and ordered his followers, among other things, to smoke marijuana in verses that spoof the Muslim holy

book, the Quran. At its peak, Husayin's Arabic-language blog had more than 70,000 visitors, overwhelmingly from Arab countries.

His Facebook groups elicited hundreds of angry comments, detailed death threats and the formation of more than a dozen Facebook groups against him, including once called "Fight the blasphemer who said 'I am God.'"

The outburst of anger reflects the feeling in the Muslim world that their faith is under mounting attack by the West. This sensitivity has periodically turned violent, such as the street protests that erupted in 2005 after cartoons mocking the Prophet Muhammad were published in Denmark or after Pope Benedict XVI suggested the Prophet Muhammad was evil the following year. The pope later retracted his comment.

Husayin is the first to be arrested in the West Bank for his religious views, said Tayseer Tamimi, the former chief Islamic judge in the area. The Western-backed

Palestinian Authority is among the more religiously liberal Arab governments in the region. It is dominated by secular elites and has frequently cracked down on hardline Muslims and activists connected to its conservative Islamic rival, Hamas.

Husayin's high public profile and prickly style, however, left authorities no choice but to take action.

Husayin used a fake name on his English and Arabic-language blogs and Facebook pages. After his mother discovered articles on atheism on his computer, she canceled his Internet connection in hopes that he would change his mind. Instead, he began going to an Internet cafe — a move that turned out to be a costly mistake. The owner, Ahmed Abu-Asal, said the blogger aroused suspicion by spending up to seven hours a day in a corner booth. After several months, a cafe worker supplied captured snapshots of his Facebook pages to Palestinian intelligence officials. □

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Players want more say in discipline for illegal hits

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK — Many NFL players believe they should have a greater voice in handing out fines and suspensions for illegal hits.

With the league recently imposing a \$75,000 fine and three more of \$50,000 each for such fouls, it is getting expensive for violators. But it's not necessarily the amount of the fines — or the potential for suspensions — that has players upset. It's the process through which only Commissioner Roger Goodell, league football operations chief Ray Anderson, officiating director Carl Johnson and other NFL executives, some of them former players such as Merton Hanks, mete out discipline.

"You've got to make sure that these things are fair, that they're measurable, that you can judge them, that it's not just one person's opinion," said New England Patriots tackle Matt Light, the team's player representative.

All plays are reviewed by the league's officiating and operations offices, meaning many people see and discuss them. The players are interested in making sure some of those people are their peers.

"I do think the issue's screwed up," added Bengals tackle Andrew Whitworth, also a player rep.

Continued on Page B6

FOWL TERRITORY

Rickie Fowler acknowledges the crowd after finishing with a par on the ninth hole of the Palm Course during the first round of the Children's Miracle Network Classic golf tournament in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. Fowler's 6-under 66 at the Disney was good enough for a share of third place after Round 1 was suspended for darkness.

*Associated Press
Page B2*



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Stroud edges Fowler, others for lead at Disney



Chris Stroud pumps his fist after making a putt for birdie on the ninth hole of the Palm Course during the first round of the Children's Miracle Network Classic PGA golf tournament in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. Stroud finished in the lead at 10 under par.

Associated Press

ANTONIO GONZALEZ

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida (AP) — Chris Stroud shot a 10-under 62 in the opening round of the Disney Classic on Thursday, surging past Rickie Fowler by four strokes and taking the clubhouse lead after play was

halted because of darkness.

Roland Thatcher was three shots off the pace, and four others were tied with Fowler in third.

"No matter what golf course we play, no matter how hard they set it up, no matter how hard the conditions, somebody always shoots 62, 63 or 64,"

Stroud said. "It just happens to be me this week."

The late surge eclipsed an impressive day by Fowler.

The 21-year-old Fowler had eight birdies and two bogeys and showed no signs of jet lag after returning from the HSBC Champions in Shanghai. He led for most of the day until Stroud moved atop the leaderboard with 10 birdies before dusk. Fourteen players were still on the course when play was called off.

Fowler has been bouncing around the globe with a busy schedule, from Wales to Las Vegas to Asia — among other stops — and then back to Florida on Monday. He was so tired in his only practice round that all he did was hit some range balls for about 30 minutes before heading back to bed.

As luck would have it, he got the day's first tee time at 6:45 a.m. Then had to wait when fog delayed it an hour.

"It's been more power naps at night. I don't think I've slept more than four hours straight," Fowler said. "When you're flying that much, it definitely feels like I hadn't touched the

club for a week."

This is a familiar turf for Fowler.

Last year, he had just turned pro and was only one shot off the lead after the first round at Disney. But he plummeted down the leaderboard through the weekend and was never in contention.

This year, Fowler has done everything but win.

He had second-place finishes at the Memorial and Phoenix, has \$2.6 million in earnings, is well inside the top 50 in the world ranking, earned a spot on the Ryder Cup team and atoned for his surprising selection with an incredible birdie for an unlikely half-point.

All that's missing is a trophy. "Definitely need to get that first win under the belt, get the monkey off my back and go from there," he said.

There was also another incentive for Fowler to come to Disney.

He is one shot behind Troy Merritt and Aaron Baddeley — who moved into a tie for the lead Thursday — for the Kodak Challenge. The contest designates a hole at 30

tournaments and keeps score throughout the year, and the lowest score for those who played at least 18 holes takes home the \$1 million prize.

"I figure Rickie or Aaron are going to make birdie, and I'm sure Rickie's trying his hardest," Merritt said.

With Disney being the final tour stop of the season, it's the last chance for players to move up on the money list and secure their Tour cards for next year. Only the top 125 will have full status next year, but players who finish No. 126-150 on the money list will get conditional status that allows them to enter more than a dozen tournaments.

The scores can often fluctuate the first two days with players swapping between the Magnolia and Palm courses. Only the Magnolia Course is used on the weekend.

But Friday — cut day — is often where the biggest moves are made. All Stroud, who is 119th on the money list, will likely need to do is make the cut. And Thatcher, 179th on the money list, needs to finish alone in at least second place to move into the top 125. □

Garcia back in hunt at Australian Masters

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Sergio Garcia put himself into the mix Friday at the Australian Masters with his lowest score of the year, a 6-under 65 that left him in range of the leaders going into the weekend.

The smile returned to the Spaniard's face on a blustery day at Victoria Golf Club, the kind of conditions that show off his ball-striking skills. What made the difference for Garcia, as always, was making his share of putts.

He played bogey-free on a course that was averaging nearly three shots over par because of the wind, and one of the few greens he missed, he holed a 40-foot birdie putt from down the slope.

Daniel Gaunt, one of the three leaders after the opening round, shot 72 and was the clubhouse leader at 5-under 137. Garcia was one shot behind, and could be in the same spot at the end of the day.

Defending champion Tiger Woods, who opened with a 69, made birdie on the 257-yard first hole and was 3 under for the tournament after four holes.

Garcia began the year with a 66 in the Abu Dhabi Championship, where he wound up in 13th place. That was as good as it got the rest of the year. His only top 10 in the United

States was fourth place at the Match Play Championship, where he lost in the semifinals. He didn't have one in Europe until finishing 10th at Valderrama a few weeks ago.

Garcia took the longest break of his career after the PGA Championship, not returning for two months. He said he needed a break to readjust his emotions, and a day like Friday certainly felt fun.

"It just depends on the day," Garcia said. "If I wake up and feel at ease, it seems like everything will go right. If I wake up not feeling so great, it can be a struggle as we go on. It can be better."

Garcia made birdie on all the par 5s, picked up a surprise birdie on the third with his long putt from off the green, and finished with a wedge that settled 8 feet behind the hole and a birdie on the ninth.

He was not about to declare himself back to full form after one round, but it was encouraging.

"Even though it was quite difficult with the conditions, it seemed like we were always making the right decisions," Garcia said. "Put that with how I was hitting the ball ... to be honest with you, that wasn't the lowest score I could have shot."

It helped to be in the hunt, however, especially with a nasty forecast for the weekend with heavy rain expected at times. □

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Kerr leads Lorena Ochoa Invitational

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP) — Cristie Kerr shot a tournament-record 8-under 64 on Thursday to take a three-stroke lead at the Lorena Ochoa Invitational, while the woman who the event is named after opened with a 74 in her first LPGA Tour start since retiring in April.

The third-ranked Kerr birdied nine of the first 15 holes at Guadalajara Country Club, but dropped a stroke on the par-3 17th. She won the LPGA State Farm Classic and LPGA Championship in consecutive starts in June.

"I felt really good out there," Kerr said. "I was there every shot. I want to do the small things well and take it day by day. I won today for myself, and I'll go out there tomorrow with the same amount of confidence. "When you're swinging well, you have good confidence and a I had lot of good yardages into the hole today," Kerr said. "So, I had good control of my ball, and if I have good control of my ball, then I can still be aggressive. Every day's different."

Stacy Lewis was three strokes back, one shot ahead of Japanese star Ai

Miyazato. U.S. Women's Open champion Paula Creamer, South Korea's Na Yeon Choi and Australia's Katherine Hull, who shot 68s, and South Koreans Hee Young Park and In-Kyung Kim had 69s.

Michelle Wie, the winner last year for her first LPGA Tour title, withdrew after the round because of a back injury. She shot a 78.

"I was very excited to be here, but unfortunately I can't play anymore," Wie said. "I'm going to see the doctor tomorrow and hope to make it feel better. We took an MRI and I have two little cysts near my spine and a little disc bulge. It's nothing major but it's just something I can't play with right now."

Ochoa closed with her second double bogey of the round.

"It's good to be back," Ochoa said. "It would be better if I had a better round today.

Especially the end of the day was a tough one because I tried really hard to stay around par and just finish really good. But nothing I can do now."

Her husband, Aeromexico CEO Andres Conesa, caddied for her.

"He did pretty good," Ochoa said.

"I was very impressed. But I know talking to him he did a good job. He was taking care of his duties."

The course sits more than a mile above sea level, making club selection difficult in the thin air

"It's actually really hard," Lewis said. "I'm still kind of adjusting. It's somewhere between 5 and 10 percent depending on how long the shot is and how long it's in the air and things like that. But I had some shots today that just went crazy far for me. So I'm still trying to adjust."

Yani Tseng, 14 points ahead of second-place Miyazato in the player of the year race, struggled to a 76. Top-ranked Jiyai Shin, skipping the tournament, and Choi are tied for third, 18 points behind Tseng. Kerr is fifth, 22 points behind Tseng.

"This tournament is definitely key. We have 35, 36 of the best players in the world here, and everybody's playing well," Kerr said. "So for me to try and accomplish the goals that I have of player of the year and so on, I have to keep doing what I did today." □



United States' Cristie Kerr lines up a putt on the 18th hole during the first round of the Lorena Ochoa Invitational LPGA golf tournament in Guadalajara, Mexico, Thursday Nov. 11, 2010.

Associated Press





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Djokovic loses to Llodra in Paris

SAMUEL PETREQUIN

AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Michael Llodra gave France a psychological lift ahead of next month's Davis Cup final with a surprise 7-6 (2), 6-2 win over defending champion and second-seeded Novak Djokovic of Serbia to reach the quarterfinals of the Paris Masters on Thursday.

Top-seeded Roger Federer also advanced to the quarters, matching his best result at the Palais Omnisports with a 6-4, 6-3 defeat of Radek Stepanek. Following his victories in Stockholm and Basel, Federer is on an 11-match winning streak and will next face Jurgen Melzer.

On a good day for France, Gael Monfils saved two match points in a 6-7 (7), 7-6 (2), 7-5 win over Fernando Verdasco, which ended the Spaniard's slim hopes of playing at the ATP World Tour Finals.

The lineup for the year-end tournament in London was completed on Thursday, with Andy Roddick, Tomas

Berdych and David Ferrer claiming the remaining places. Djokovic, who will lead Serbia's effort against France in the Davis Cup final from Dec. 3-5, entertained the crowd at the Palais Omnisports by arriving on court wearing a bow tie, glasses and fake mustache.

"It's just a little tradition I have here in Bercy for last four or five years," Djokovic said. "I have been doing it because around this time here is Halloween."

However, Djokovic's smile had disappeared by the time the No. 34-ranked Llodra completed a shock victory.

Llodra, who lost only four of the 41 points played on his first serve, saved two set points in the first set tiebreaker before closing out the set with a winning backhand return.

He broke in the third game of the second set after Djokovic mishit a backhand into the net and doublefaulted before saving three consecutive break points at 3-2.

Llodra broke again for a 5-2



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts during his eighth of final match against France's Michael Llodra at the Paris Tennis Masters tournament, Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. Llodra won 7-6(6), 6-2.

Associated Press

lead and sealed his win on his first match point with a brilliant stretched forehand volley.

"I need to go further, I'm realizing that I can go beyond the quarterfinals at one-week tournaments," said Llodra, who plays Nikolay Davydenko on Friday.

Djokovic said the Bercy center court is one of the fastest he has played on and says the conditions will be very different in Belgrade for the Dec. 3-5 Davis Cup final. "It favors Llodra and the French guys, but in Belgrade we are going to set it up the way we want," Djokovic said. A doubles specialist, Llodra now has a good chance of being rewarded with a singles spot in France's Davis Cup team following Jo-Wilfried Tsonga's withdrawal through injury. Monfils seems likely to take the other singles spot. Verdasco needed to reach the final in Paris to have any hope of qualifying for the ATP World Tour Finals but Monfils' three-set win means the lineup in London from Nov. 21-28 will be Rafael Nadal, Federer, Djokovic, Andy Murray, Robin Soderling, Berdych, Ferrer and Roddick.

Monfils saved the two match points at 5-4 in the deciding with a couple of service winners, including a second serve on the line, then broke in the 11th game after Verdasco double faulted and put an easy forehand volley into the net. The Frenchman fired 11 aces and delighted the home crowd with his usual spectacular slides, while Verdasco made 51 unforced errors.

"Tennis-wise it was not

perfect, but I found the mental resources to stay in that match," said Monfils, who played with a minor knee injury. "I'm trying not to think about the pain. I'm able to forget everything when I'm on the court."

Monfils has been advised by France captain Guy Forget not to take too many risks.

"This is a Masters 1000 tournament and a place where I love to play," Monfils said. "I also think I have to be careful and sometimes, I'm diving on the floor and I'm thinking: Oh, I shouldn't have done that."

Monfils, who reached the final last year, will take on Murray, who beat Marin Cilic of Croatia 7-6 (6), 3-6, 6-3.

Roddick, who has qualified for the World Tour Finals for the eighth consecutive year, beat Ernests Gulbis of Latvia 6-3, 7-6 (8).

"It's certainly an accomplishment every year. I think it's an honor to qualify once, and then each time I think kind of you realize how tough it actually is," he said. You can't just play well for one week. It's the culmination of doing it week after week on tour."

Roddick next plays No. 4 Robin Soderling, who beat Stanislas Wawrinka 7-6 (3), 6-3. □

Henry says spending not answer for Red Bulls

MONTCLAIR, New Jersey (AP) — Despite the team falling short of its Major League Soccer ambitions this season, New York's Thierry Henry believes another player spending spree is not the answer to the Red Bull's shortcomings.

With the departure of top scorer Juan Pablo Angel into free agency, the Red Bulls will be left with the Henry and Mexico midfielder Rafael Marquez as their only designated players, one short of the Major League Soccer limit.

But both Henry and coach Hans Backe said Thursday that throwing big money at a third designated player should not be the main objective of the offseason.

"It's not about stars," said Henry, the \$5.5 million former Arsenal and Barcelona forward who was limited to two goals in 11 games as he



New York Red Bulls soccer player Thierry Henry, right, of France, is interviewed as he attends the Miami Heat against the New Jersey Nets NBA basketball game at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J., Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010.

Associated Press

battled fitness problems and a bruised knee. "The teams are the stars. When you look at the semifinals, those are the teams that have played together for two, three years.

"This team was kind of a fresh team. The teams that are making the final are the

teams that have been playing for a while and have been playing together throughout the season." The Red Bulls (15-9-6) will be depending on Henry to return to training camp next year at full strength and replace Angel's team-high 13 goals. □

NHL Roundup

Blue Jackets get record win, thrash Blues 8-1

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The Columbus Blue Jackets recorded the biggest winning margin in franchise history with an 8-1 thrashing of the previously in-form St. Louis Blues in the NHL on Wednesday.

St. Louis came into the game on a seven-game winning streak but that came to a shuddering end as Columbus also equalled its highest ever score.

Jake Voracek scored on two breakaways to chase Columbus' red-hot goalie Jaroslav Halak as the Blue Jackets scored early and often. They had previously been the only team in the NHL this season that had not scored more than three goals.

The rout also was a rare collapse by the Blues, who had allowed just four goals in their previous six games. Chris Clark also had two goals and Rick Nash, R.J. Umberger and Antoine Vermette each added a goal and an assist for Columbus. B.J. Crombeen got St. Louis' sole goal.

Bruins 7, Penguins 4

In Pittsburgh, Boston piled on five goals in the third period to cap a comeback win over Pittsburgh.

Boston entered the third period facing a 4-2 deficit, but Nathan Horton and Zdeno Chara scored 15 seconds apart to tie it, Shawn Thornton scored the go-ahead goal, Blake Wheeler added insurance and Milan Lucic put in an empty-netter.

Mark Recchi and Brad Marchand scored the earlier goals for the Bruins, who are 6-1 on the road this season.

Sidney Crosby had a goal and two assists for the

Penguins, while Chris Kunitz, Aaron Asham and Brooks Orpik also scored.

Coyotes 2, Blackhawks 1

In Chicago, Kyle Turris and Eric Belanger scored 35 seconds apart in the second period to lift Phoenix past Chicago.

Backup goalie Jason LaBarbera made 35 saves for Phoenix. Previously winless this season in three appearances, he won for the fourth time in four career games against Chicago. He faced 26 shots in the first two periods, but only 10 in the third.

Brian Bickell scored for Chicago, which has blown a home lead six times this season.

Ducks 1, Islanders 0

In Anaheim, the hosts notched a fifth straight win by edging New York.

Curtis McElhinney made 27 saves for his first career shutout, and Saku Koivu scored early in the third period.

The Ducks managed just 14 shots and appeared exhausted for long stretches of their fourth game in six nights, failing even to get a

shot in the first 18 minutes. Yet Anaheim still managed to send the foundering Islanders to their eighth straight loss.

New York still must visit the NHL's other two California clubs in the next three days before finally ending a brutal stretch of 12 of 15 games on the road.

Panthers 4, Maple Leafs 1

In Sunrise, Florida, Toronto slumped to its seventh straight loss, beaten by Florida.

Michael Frolik had a goal and two assists, and Bryan Allen, Steven Reinprecht and Shawn Matthias also scored for the Panthers.

The Maple Leafs' losing streak is their longest since opening last season at 0-6-1. They have lost 10 of their past 11 games and are 3 for 39 on the power play in their past 10 games.

In Newark, Buffalo won in Lindy Ruff's 1,000th game as the Sabres' coach, defeating New Jersey.

Derek Roy and Thomas Vanek scored shootout goals. Roy, Jason Pominville, Tyler Myers and Tyler Ennis scored in



Columbus Blue Jackets' R.J. Umberger, left, celebrates his goal against the St. Louis Blues with teammates Jan Hejda, right, of the Czech Republic, and Nikita Filatov, of Russia, in the second period of an NHL hockey game in Columbus, Ohio, Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

regulation for the Sabres.

The Devils are winless in seven home games this year and things went from bad to worse when \$100 million free agent Ilya Kovalchuk had the puck slip off his stick and he didn't get a shot on the Devils' fourth and final shootout attempt.

Jason Arnott scored twice

and David Clarkson and

Jamie Langenbrunner added goals for New Jersey.

In other NHL games it was Buffalo 5, New Jersey 4, SO; Boston 7, Pittsburgh 4; Columbus 8, St. Louis 1; Florida 4, Toronto 1; Phoenix 2, Chicago 1; and Anaheim 1, N.Y. Islanders 0.

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In this Oct. 17, 2010, file photo, Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison (92) hits Cleveland Browns wide receiver Mohamed Massaquoi (11) during a football game in Pittsburgh. Harrison was fined \$75,000 for the hit.

Associated Press

ILLEGAL HITS

Continued from Page B1

“They say former players are the ones that review it, but they’re also former players who are being paid by the NFL. So a lot of times, I feel if Goodell or some of those guys would sit in on those meetings and hear how it goes, you’d know that it’s not a fair conversation.”

When asked Monday about Steelers safety Troy Polamalu’s suggestion that current players and team officials should be involved in deciding punishments, Goodell said the league has been opposed to it.

“There are league executives involved and there are former players involved,” Goodell said in Cincinnati. “I think

having active players and active front office executives is something the competition committee has always frowned on.”

Goodell emphasized that he’s not part of the fines process, which was set up with the players’ association. Appeals are heard and decided by Art Shell, a Hall of Fame player with the Raiders, and former NFL coach Ted Cottrell. They are paid jointly by the NFL and NFLPA.

Players often express concern about the appeals system, which they don’t find objective, as well as about the hefty fines.

Then again, if they are breaking the rules — particularly when player safety is at stake — a strong message needs to be delivered, as the league did last month.

“I just think that to arbitrarily go in and set a fine and say that this is the rule is just not the way that it should be done,” Redskins defensive end and player rep Vonnie Holliday

said. “It should be more of a democratic approach to things. And for the union to be a part of that, or to go out and get some outside council or someone to be a part of that process, I think it’s very important and something that should be looked into.”

Light says fines are taken directly out of players’ checks before the appeal process has run its course. He finds that strange because if a player violates the drug policy and is fined, that money is not removed until appeals are heard and a final verdict is made.

However, the fine money only is taken from the paycheck if a player does not appeal within 10 days of notification of the fine, or if he or his agent or the NFLPA delays the appeal hearing beyond a specific time.

“You can’t take a guy’s money before he’s been found guilty or had a chance to appeal a decision that’s been made,” Light said. “There’s definitely

things we have to work on.” Bills safety George Wilson sees all of these issues intertwined with the negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement. The CBA expires in March, and players on a majority of the 32 teams have voted to decertify the union should the owners lock them out.

Wilson suggests that a topic such as health care coverage in a new CBA is tied in with player safety — and discipline — on the field.

“As players, we look at it like, ‘OK, if you are going to protect us on the field, you have to protect us off the field as well,’” Wilson said. “So just like you’re fighting for our safety on the field you have to fight for our safety off the field. We have health care benefits due to expire in March in the event that we’re locked out. So guys are looking at it like how much do you really care about our health and safety in the long run?” □



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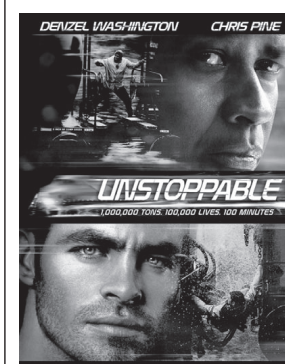
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LIFE AS WE KNOW IT daily: 6:45 - 9:15 matinee: late show: 11:45 PG-13	SECRETARIAT daily: 9:15 matinee: late show: 11:45 PG-13
MEGAMIND 3D daily: 4:00 - 6:15 - 8:30 PG matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:00	FOR COLORED GIRLS daily: 4:45 - 7:45 matinee: 1:45 R late show: 11:00
SECRETARIAT daily: 6:45 - 9:15 matinee: late show: 11:45 PG-13	MEGAMIND 3D daily: 4:45 - 7:00 PG matinee: 12:15 - 2:30 late show:
SINTERKLAAS EN HET PAKJES MYSTERIE daily: 4:45 matinee: 12:15 - 2:30 R late show: 11:15	RED daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 1:30 PG-13 late show: 11:30
CATS & DOGS THE REVENGE OF KITTY GALORE 3D daily: 4:45 PG matinee: 12:45 - 2:45 late show:	

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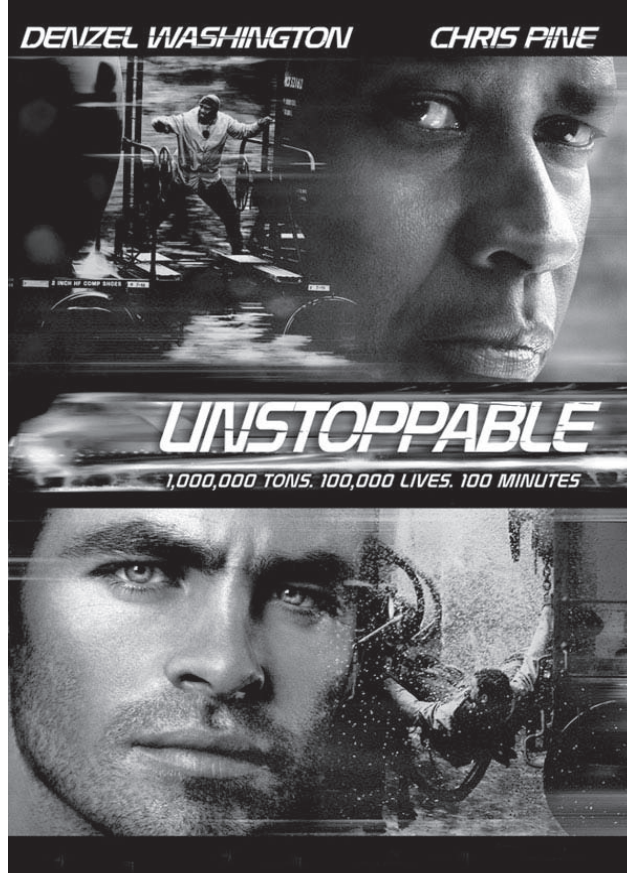
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NBA Roundup

Jazz stages another big comeback, beats Magic

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — The Utah Jazz notched another stunning comeback victory to defeat the Orlando Magic 104-94 in the NBA on Wednesday. A night after coming from 22 points down to beat the star-studded Miami Heat, Utah this time was 18 points behind in the third quarter before an impressive rally. Deron Williams scored 30 points and Paul Millsap added 23 for the Jazz. Vince Carter had 20 points for the Magic, who had their four-game winning streak snapped and lost for the first time in the new Amway Center.

Wizards 98, Rockets 91
In Washington, rookie John Wall got his first triple-double with 19 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds to lead Washington over Houston. Rockets' giant Yao Ming missed most of the game after he strained a tendon in his leg in the first quarter. Washington used a 10-0 run late in the fourth quarter to pull away after blowing an 11-point lead. Andray Blatche finished with 20 points and 11 rebounds for the Wizards. Kevin Martin scored 31 points for the Rockets, who have lost six of seven.

Bobcats 101, Raptors 96
In Toronto, Stephen Jackson scored 20 points to help Charlotte beat Toronto. Gerald Wallace had 19 points and 14 rebounds for the Bobcats, who ended a three-game losing streak. Jackson stripped Toronto center Andrea Bargnani with five seconds left and the Bobcats clinging to a three-point edge, then sealed it with a pair of free throws. Bargnani scored 23 points for the Raptors, who have lost six straight for the first time since a seven-game

slide in 2008-09.

Bucks 108, Hawks 91
In Atlanta, Milwaukee extended its offensive awakening with a victory over Atlanta. The Bucks struggled with their offense early in the season and were last in the league in scoring with only 89.6 points per game before taking a 107-80 win over New York on Tuesday. They were as impressive against the Hawks in taking back-to-back wins for the first time this season. Corey Maggette scored 20 points and Brandon Jennings added 19 for Milwaukee. The Hawks have lost three straight, including two at home, after winning their first six.

Warriors 122, Knicks 117
In New York, Golden State improved to its best start in 16 years by downing New York. David Lee scored a season-high 28 points in his return to New York and Dorell Wright made two huge baskets in the final two minutes as the Warriors made it six wins from eight games to start the new campaign. Golden State blew a 19-point lead in the second half but were bailed out by Wright, who hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:58 remaining and added an insurance basket a minute later. Lee grabbed his 10th rebound after Wilson Chandler missed a tying 3-point attempt and sank two clinching free throws with 1.5 seconds left.

Nets 95, Cavaliers 87
In Cleveland, New Jersey ended a run of five straight losses by beating Cleveland. Devin Harris scored a season-high 31 and Kris Humphries added 13 and 18 rebounds in his first start as

the Nets notched their first road win. New Jersey won despite not having starting forward Troy Murphy and shooting just 19 of 35 from the free-throw line. J.J. Hickson scored 15 to lead Cleveland, which led by 11 in the third but went faltered late and had its winning streak stopped at three. The Cavs also lost guard Mo Williams in the third quarter because of a groin strain.

Mavericks 106, Grizzlies 91
In Memphis, Jason Terry scored 25 points to lead Dallas past Memphis. Terry connected on 11 of 16 shots from the field as the Mavericks completed a run of three wins from their first three road games. Shawn Marion added 20 points. Zach Randolph led Memphis with 23 points. In Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook each scored 31 points and came up with the key late baskets to help Oklahoma City hold off a late Philadelphia charge. Westbrook had a key layup off an inbound pass with just over 2½ minutes left to keep Philadelphia from having a shot at the tie, and Durant helped put it away with a three-point play with 44 seconds remaining. Rookie Jodie Meeks scored 13 of his 17 points in the fourth quarter to lead the 76ers' bid to erase an 11-point deficit. The Sixers reached three figure for the fifth straight game for the first time since 2005-06.

Timberwolves 98, Kings 89
In Sacramento, Michael Beasley scored a career-high 42 points and nine rebounds to help Minnesota beat Sacramento, snapping



Utah Jazz point guard Deron Williams, left, and Orlando Magic point guard Jameer Nelson (14) scramble for a loose ball during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

a six-game losing streak. Beasley made 17 of 31 shots and hit 7 of 10 free throws and surpassed his previous high of 30 points early in the third quarter. Any win is a big victory for the Timberwolves, who entered the game having dropped 36 of their previous 39 games dating back to last season. Minnesota had lost its previous six road games this season after winning only five away from home a year ago. Omri Casspi had 17 points for the Kings, who dropped their third straight game.

Spurs 107, Clippers 95
In San Antonio, the hosts won their fifth straight, overcoming an undermanned Los Angeles. Manu Ginobili and Richard Jefferson scored 22 points apiece for the Spurs, who

have won 18 straight against the Clippers. Los Angeles was without Eric Gordon, Baron Davis and Chris Kaman — three of their four leading scorers — and are off to another horrendous start, falling to 1-8, so far showing no signs of the forecast playoff potential. Rasual Butler led the Clippers with 18 points.

In other NBA games it was Milwaukee 108, Atlanta 91; Utah 104, Orlando 94; Charlotte 101, Toronto 96; Washington 98, Houston 91; New Jersey 95, Cleveland 87; Golden State 122, New York 117; Dallas 106, Memphis 91; Oklahoma City 109, Philadelphia 103; San Antonio 107, L.A. Clippers 95; and Minnesota 98, Sacramento 89. □

Two days before fight, Pacquiao goes for a ride

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP Sports Columnist

ARLINGTON, Texas – The champ was running late, which was not surprising because the champ is always running late. More worrisome on this day was that Manny Pacquiao couldn't be found in the sprawling hotel suite that serves as ground zero for him and his entourage.

"I can't find him, I'm serious," said Michael Koncz, whose handles many of Pacquiao's affairs. "Someone is in the bathroom with the hair dryer going. But I'm not going in there."

Indeed, disturbing the champ is frowned upon, something the signs in Pacquiao's suite at the Gaylord Texan let all visitors know. There are various edicts plastered on the walls, including one declaring that a 9 p.m. curfew would be strictly enforced.

"By order of the champ," it says, making it de facto law in these parts of Texas. Two days before he meets



Manny Pacquiao, left, and Antonio Margarito, right, pose during a news conference Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010, in Arlington, Texas. The boxers are scheduled to fight Saturday night at Cowboys Stadium for the WBC World Super Welterweight title.

Antonio Margarito in boxing's biggest event of the year, Pacquiao is clearly in charge of not only his massive entourage but a sport that has fallen on hard times in recent years. He is expected to draw more than 50,000 fans Saturday night to Cowboys Stadium and could make \$20 million if he can convince enough other people to buy the fight on television.

To do that, he was supposed to appear Thursday at the stadium — where he already has as many wins this year as the Cowboys — to do a series of satellite interviews with major networks. But first he had to be found. Eventually the hair dryer stopped, and a few minutes later Pacquiao emerged. Immediately, members of his jumbo entourage jumped to attention and soon a lucky few crowded on an elevator, heading toward a trio of waiting SUVs that would carry them all to the stadium for the final round of media interviews before the fight.

The champ got the middle seat in the first SUV. I got the one next to him. The idea was to pick his brain about moving up in weight one more time and going for yet another title to add to his already large pile of belts.

Except the champ didn't feel much like talking. Head buried in his Blackberry, he checked e-mail from back home, part of his duties as the newly elected congressman from the Sarangani Province of the Philippines. When the answers did come,

Associated Press they came haltingly, as if Pacquiao was saving up all his words for the final 30 minutes of interviews that were just ahead.

The bottom line was this: He believes Margarito has a style made for him, and hopes everyone can come to Lake Tahoe a few days after the fight for the concert he has planned there.

Oh, and Floyd Mayweather Jr. isn't on his radar. "He needs me," Pacquiao said. "I don't need him."

On that point, Pacquiao is probably right. In a remarkable reverse of fortunes, Mayweather now faces possible jail time while the fighter he claimed couldn't touch him in ticket sales is selling more tickets than any fighter in recent history.

By now, Pacquiao was getting warmed up. He spoke of the responsibilities of being famous and how Mayweather doesn't understand them, and he spoke of the responsibilities of being a congressman and having the future of his people in his hands.

And then he started singing. "Imagine there's no heaven," Pacquiao crooned, reprising his role on the

duet he did last week with comedian Will Ferrell on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" The video of the performance has nearly 800,000 hits so far on YouTube, and the singing is surprisingly good, especially if you weren't expecting much.

"I'm not a good singer, but I can sing," Pacquiao said. "It's like boxing. I'm not a good boxer, but I can box." He may not be a boxer in the classical sense, but he's a fighter who comes along only once a generation, a fearsome puncher with both hands who operates with dizzying speed and from so many angles that he usually ends up overwhelming the other guy in the ring.

He'll be going for an unprecedented title in his eighth different weight class against Margarito, and the oddsmakers figure he will be successful. But it's always a risk against a bigger man and one punch can ruin a lot of carefully laid plans in boxing. At the stadium, Pacquiao dutifully sits in front of a television camera for a live interview on ESPN's SportsCenter, and later tapes a piece for National Public Radio.

He says he's ready and, despite concerns about his training camp, will be the Pacman everyone knows even if he now has weightier responsibilities.

"There's pressure," Pacquiao said. "In every fight I have to train hard because the whole Filipino nation is on my shoulders." On the ride back to the hotel, Pacquiao checks a few more e-mails, then falls asleep. He wakes with a start as the SUV pulls up to a back entrance, and the entourage begins piling out. "What time is it?" he asked. Not to worry. When you're Manny Pacquiao, everything runs on Pacman time. □

KNOWLEDGE

Knowing how HIV is transmitted is one way of protecting yourself. Hurting someone's feelings will not protect you.

Acts of human kindness towards persons living with HIV or AIDS could make a big difference in their lives.

Companies yank cord on residential phone books

By MICHAEL
FELBERBAUM,
AP Business Writer

RICHMOND, Va. — What's black and white and read all over? Not the white pages, which is why regulators have begun granting telecommunications companies the go-ahead to stop mass-printing residential phone books, a musty fixture of Americans' kitchen counters, refrigerator tops and junk drawers. In the past month alone, New York, Florida and Pennsylvania approved Verizon Communications Inc.'s request to quit distributing residential white pages. Residents in Virginia have until Nov. 19 to provide comments on a similar request pending with state regulators. Telephone companies argue that most consumers now check the Internet rather than flip through pages when they want to reach out and touch someone.

"Anybody who doesn't have access to some kind of online way to look things up now is probably too old to be able to read the print in the white pages anyway," joked Robert Thompson, a pop culture professor at Syracuse University.

Phone companies note that eliminating residential white pages would reduce environmental impact by using less paper and ink. It also can't hurt their bottom

lines to cut out the cost of a service that rarely gets used and generates little beyond nostalgia.

The first telephone directory was issued in February 1878 — a single page that covered 50 customers in New Haven, Conn. That sheet grew into a book that became virtually a household appliance, listing numbers for neighbors, friends and colleagues, not to mention countless potential victims of prank calls.

Fewer people rely on paper directories for a variety of reasons: more people rely solely on cell phones, whose numbers typically aren't included in the listings; more listings are available online; and mobile phones and caller ID systems on land lines can store a large number of frequently called numbers.

The number of traditional land lines has been declining for the better part of the decade, and now are being disconnected at a rate of nearly 10 percent each year, according to company financial reports.

And a survey conducted for SuperMedia Inc. by Gallup shows that between 2005 and 2008, the percentage of households relying on stand-alone residential white pages fell from 25 percent to 11 percent. Dallas-based SuperMedia, which publishes Verizon's telephone directories, has instead focused on its yellow pages

and paid advertising listings, and their online equivalents.

Unlike the residential white pages, the business directories printed on yellow pages are doing fine, at least according to the Yellow Pages Association. The industry trade group claims more half the people in the U.S. still let their fingers do the walking every month, and that 550 million residential and business directories are still printed every year.

As for the white pages, Steve Keschl can attest to the declining interest. As a doorman at an Upper East Side condo building since 1960, the 84-year-old has watched tenants' fading reaction to the annual delivery of New York City's white pages book — which incidentally weighs in around 3 pounds, 9 ounces, or a little more than a dozen iPhones.

These days, the books "sit here pretty long," said Keschl, who added that even he rarely uses the directory anymore. "Sometimes they take them, sometimes they don't."

While New York and other cities still have stand-alone white pages, many of the thousands of phone directories across the country include residential white pages, yellow business listings and blue government pages. Where they no longer have to print the white pages, publishers will simply slim down their combined books.



This photo taken Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010, shows Emily Goodmann sitting with a small stack of phone books at the Northwestern University Library in Evanston, Ill. Goodmann is a doctoral student who is doing her dissertation on the history of the telephone book.

(AP Photo/Charles Rex Arbogast)

Verizon and AT&T Inc. — the two largest land line players — and others have requested exemptions from state requirements to distribute residential phone books in paper form. The directories would be available on the Internet, printed upon request or provided on CD.

"You probably have a better chance of finding a name quicker if you can just search for it in a database than try to look it up in the white pages," said Link Hoewing, Verizon's vice president of Internet and technology policy.

Since 2007, states that have granted permission to quit printing residential listings or that have requests pending include: Alabama, Delaware,

Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin. New York-based Verizon's plan is to seek regulatory approval in all 12 states where it operates land line telephone service. In total, the savings could top 17,000 tons of paper annually throughout Verizon's service areas, the company said. The company and its printer, which uses the Verizon brand name in lieu of payment for publishing the white pages, would not provide any estimates on the cost of printing the directories or how much money would be saved by discontinuing them. □

Fox joins broadcasters in blocking Google TV link

By RYAN NAKASHIMA,
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES — News Corp.'s Fox has joined broadcasters ABC, CBS and NBC in blocking access to full episodes of shows when searched from Google TV's Web browser, according to a person at Fox familiar with the matter.

The move took effect Wednesday, about three weeks after other broadcasters blocked access. The delay was because Google TV had

just launched and wasn't in enough homes to be seen as a top priority, said the person, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Tech blogs had reported on the development earlier.

The Sony television that comes with Google TV software can still access networks like any regular TV, just not the online versions. The Logitech set-top box that comes with Google TV also does not interfere with regular TV signals.

Broadcasters want to block viewing over Internet-connected TVs because it is less profitable than regular TV.

There are fewer ads for online episodes, and cable and satellite TV providers pay broadcasters millions of dollars for the right to retransmit signals over their services. Allowing online viewing through sets in the living room could jeopardize the revenue that is generated from pay TV subscriptions.



Surfboards lean against a wall at the Google office in Santa Monica, California, October 11, 2010.

Google reiterated a statement issued earlier when the other broadcasters blocked their online shows, saying "it is

ultimately the content owner's choice to restrict users from accessing their content on the platform." □

De Laurentiis, pivotal producer of 'Serpico', dies

LOS ANGELES – Dino De Laurentiis, an Academy Award-winning film impresario and producer of "Serpico" and "Barbarella" who helped revolutionize the way movies are bankrolled and sold, has died. He was 91. The Academy Award-winning producer's daughter said her father was surrounded by family when he died Wednesday night at his home in Beverly Hills. The statement from Raffaella De Laurentiis did not give a cause of death.

De Laurentiis was a legend of Italian New Wave filmmaking. His works also included "Bitter Rice," "La Strada" and "Barbarella."

He was tiny, but tough, a veritable Napoleon on the set and utterly tireless. "Such a little lion," was how his second wife, producer Martha De Laurentiis, put it when he turned 80.

Like any larger-than-life

movie figure, De Laurentiis went through boom times and busts. But he always bounced back and his passion for movies never dimmed.

His career spanned hundreds of films, including several Oscar winners and he worked with some of the biggest stars and best directors in the business.

His credits include box office and/or critical successes such as "U-571," "War and Peace," "Ragtime," "Three Days of the Condor" and "Blue Velvet."

A pivotal figure in postwar Italian cinema, De Laurentiis moved to the United States in the 1970s, becoming a citizen in 1986. But this son of a Neapolitan pasta maker never lost his thick Italian accent and tried to spend a month in Capri and Rome each year.

The Academy Award-winning "Serpico" in 1973 with Al Pacino was De Laurentiis' Hollywood debut. But by then, he already had two

Italian-made Oscar-winners, Federico Fellini's "La Strada" and "Nights of Cabiria" to his credit.

One of the first producers to understand the box-office potential of foreign audiences, he helped invent international co-productions, raising money by pre-selling distribution rights outside North America. Throughout his career, he alternated lavish, big-budget productions with less commercial films by directors such as Robert Altman, Ingmar Bergman and David Lynch, and he's often package the blockbusters with art films to secure distribution for the smaller films.

He got off to a strong start in the United States with "Serpico", then followed it up with another success, "Three days of the Condor," (Robert Redford).

But he was also battered by flops, including the infamous "Dune", in 1984 and a truly



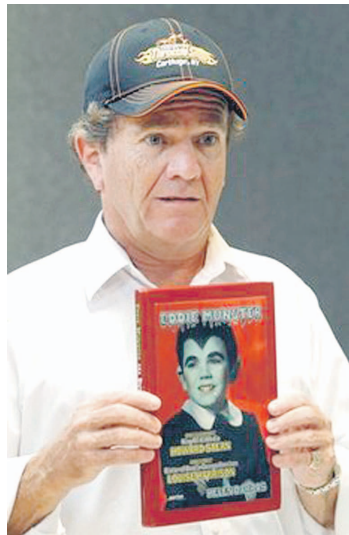
FILE - In this Feb. 11, 2001 file, photo British actor Anthony Hopkins, right, and producer Dino De Laurentiis, left, arrive for a news conference on their movie 'Hannibal' at the Berlin film festival 'Berlinale'. De Laurentiis, a film impresario and producer of 'Serpico,' 'Barbarella' and 'Death Wish,' died Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010 at his home in Beverly Hills, Calif. He was 91.

(AP Photo/Herbert Knosowski, File)

awful "King Kong" sequel. Personal tragedy also took its toll.

In 1981, his son Federico was killed in a plane crash. "My father still to this day can't

speak of him...He told me that every morning he wakes up and thinks of him," De Laurentiis' daughter Veronica said nearly 20 years after Federico's death. □



FILE - In this Aug. 3, 2010 file photo, Butch Patrick, who played boy vampire Eddie Munster in the mid-60s sitcom 'The Munsters' is shown in West Chester, Pa. Patrick's agent said Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010 that the 57-year-old former child star is in a private drug and alcohol treatment facility in New Jersey.

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke, File)

PHILADELPHIA – The former child star who played

Child star who played Eddie Munster in NJ rehab

boy werewolf Eddie Munster on TV has entered a drug and alcohol treatment facility.

Butch Patrick's agent said Thursday that the 57-year-old is in a private facility in New Jersey.

Agent Jodi Ritzen says Patrick is in rehab "to deal with a lifetime problem of substance abuse." Ritzen wouldn't disclose the name of the facility where he's being treated. Patrick moved to the Philadelphia area earlier this year after being contacted by a West Chester woman who was a fan of "The Munsters" back in the 1960s. She announced last week that they had split. □



British actress Emma Watson on her arrival for the World Premiere of Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows: Part One, in London, Thursday Nov. 11, 2010.

(AP Photo/Ian West, PA)

**By DAVID GERMAIN
HILARY FOX,
Associated Press**
LONDON – Harry Potter's journey is nearly over.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1," the next-to-last installment in the film franchise about the teen wizard, premieres Thursday in London ahead of its theatrical release next week.

The adaptation of J.K. Rowling's seventh and final novel comes in two installments, with the second film due out next July.

'Deathly Hallows' arrives as end nears for Potter

Fans may leave frustrated that they have to wait eight months for the finale. But Rowling's last book needed to be broken into two parts for the big screen, said Daniel Radcliffe, who stars as Harry.

"I was always very much in favor of it being two parts, and I think most people were, simply because we all realized there was no way you could do justice to the book and really capture the story in one film," Radcliffe told The Associated Press.

In the first six books, there was secondary action that could be cut from the movies, "themes which while exciting and while fans love them, simply don't add anything to the main thrust of the story," Radcliffe said. "In the seventh book, there is very little extraneous stuff that's not actually contributing heavily to the main plot line."

"Part 1" sends Harry and pals Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint) outside their usual haunts at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry as they search for artifacts that are the key to the

power of dark Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes).

"It's kind of an edgy road movie where these three iconic characters, who we've always seen in this magical place called Hogwarts, are thrust out in to the big, bad world and have to fend for themselves and survive," said David Yates, who directed both parts of "Deathly Hallows" as well as the fifth and sixth "Harry Potter" films. "As much as we love Hogwarts, we needed a fresh environment. We needed to be out of our comfort zones, definitely," Watson said.

And what's Voldemort aiming to get out of all of this?

"Everyone knows, don't they? They read all the books, don't they? They all know what he's up to: world domination, total power," Fiennes said.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" will bring to a close one of Hollywood's most remarkable film franchises, a gambit of more than a decade by Warner Bros. to bring all of Rowling's novels to the screen before the young stars outgrew their roles. □





Disappointing Cisco outlook sinks stocks

By STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – Stocks tumbled Thursday after a disappointing outlook from Cisco Systems rattled the market and as world leaders attempt to come up with plans to strengthen a weak global economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 75 points, led lower by Cisco. Major indexes had pared some of their losses by afternoon trading, but the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index was still down nearly 1 percent.

For the second straight quarter, Cisco provided investors with a disappointing sales forecast. That sent the Dow component's shares down more than 15 percent.

The computer network equipment maker said its revenue will rise by less than half of what analysts had predicted for its November through January quarter. There are worries that smaller competitors are cutting into Cisco's market share.

Tim Courtney, chief investment officer at Burns Advisory Group, said Thursday's retreat was typical of the few pullbacks seen during an otherwise steady climb over the past two and a half months. Investors get one disappointing report and broadly sell shares, Courtney said. Pauses in the run-up that began in early

September have only lasted a few days before stocks start climbing higher.

Technology shares have been among the best performing in recent months as business starts to pick back up with more companies investing in new technology coming out of the recession. Cisco's cautious forecast puts a damper on expectations for broader growth in the sector in the coming quarters.

The Dow fell 76.21, or 0.7 percent, to 11,280.83 in afternoon trading. The Nasdaq dropped 22.57, or 0.9 percent, to 2,556.21.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.13, or 0.5 percent, to 1,212.58.

Volume was a bit lighter than in recent days because of the Veterans' Day holiday. Bond trading is closed for the holiday and federal government offices are closed so there will be no readings on the economy.

Investors were also cautious Thursday as leaders from major rich and developing countries began a summit in South Korea. The Group of 20 is trying to hammer out plans to help support a global recovery that has accelerated in some emerging economies like China while more developed countries like the U.S. have struggled to rebound.

Currency manipulation, trade gaps and protectionism are the major topics the group is expected to discuss. □



Trader Michael Urkonis, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)



An auction signs sits in front of a foreclosed home Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010 in Valrico, Fla. The number of U.S. homes repossessed by lenders last month fell by the sharpest margin this year, as several major lenders temporarily halted most or all of their foreclosures amid allegations thousands of foreclosures were handled improperly.

(AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

By ALEX VEIGA,
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES – The number of U.S. homes repossessed by lenders last month fell by the sharpest margin this year, as several major lenders temporarily halted most or

all of their foreclosures amid allegations thousands of foreclosures were handled improperly.

Home repossessions dropped 9 percent from September to October, foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac Inc. said

US homes lost to foreclosure drops 9 pct in Oct.

Thursday.

The decline represents the first significant hitch in a foreclosure steamroller that's had lenders on pace to seize more than 1 million homes this year. In recent weeks, some lenders that had suspended taking action against borrowers severely behind in payments have announced plans to resume doing so, though at a more measured pace, in an attempt to ensure there aren't any flaws in the process. That means the number of homes lost to foreclosure should begin picking up again, but at a much slower pace.

"We will still see some softness in the numbers in November, just because of the lag time from when you announce something like this and when you can actually enact it and then reverse it,"

said Rick Sharga, a senior vice president at RealtyTrac.

Lenders such as Bank of America, Ally Financial's GMAC Mortgage and JPMorgan Chase & Co. suspended some or all of their foreclosure activity after the foreclosure documents mess erupted in late September. In recent weeks, they announced plans to resume some foreclosure actions. Bank of America announced Oct. 8 it would withdraw for review some 102,000 pending affidavits related to foreclosure proceedings in 23 states where courts play a role in the process. About two weeks ago, the lender said it would begin resubmitting those affidavits, a process that was expected to take several weeks to complete. It continues to have a hold on trustee sales or sheriff's auctions of

foreclosed homes, and is still delaying foreclosures in the 27 states that don't require a judge's approval as it reviews its cases in those states.

JPMorgan Chase said last week it would be restarting the foreclosure process later this month after halting foreclosure proceedings on 127,000 loans in 40 states.

"We expect it will take about three or four months to basically get back up to speed," said spokesman Thomas Kelly. GMAC, meanwhile, has been reviewing its thousands of foreclosure cases and moved ahead with them on a case-by-case basis. "The moratorium may have been lifted by just about all the banks, but it's gone from a foreclosure moratorium to a foreclosure slowdown," said banking analyst Nancy Bush of NAB Research. □

HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

Cheap obesity steps could have major health impact



Liang Yong, 30, who weighs about 230 kg (507 lbs) and is 1.58 m (5.18 ft) tall, reads newspaper in a ward at a hospital in Chongqing municipality June 1, 2010.

By Kate Kelland,
Health and Science
Correspondent

LONDON — Taxing junk food, limiting food adverts and making labels clearer could be the best way to curb rising obesity levels in countries like India and China, where increasing prosperity is creating ever heavier consumers.

The average annual cost of tackling obesity with these measures could be less than

\$1 per head, and global experts said in a study on Thursday that emerging economies should take immediate action to reverse rising obesity rates before the problem reaches levels seen in the industrialized world.

Researchers from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) studied possible strategies to combat obesity in six

emerging economies and also in England.

They found that combining prevention steps into a co-ordinated strategy would have a significant health impact.

“A multiple intervention strategy would achieve substantially larger health gains than individual programs, with better cost-effectiveness,” said Michele Cecchini, an OECD health policy analyst and one of the authors of the study.

The study, published in the *Lancet*, found unhealthy diets and a lack of physical inactivity were pushing obesity rates in these seven nations rapidly toward the average of all OECD nations, where half of the population is already overweight and one in six people is obese.

LESS THAN \$1 PER PERSON

The OECD said a combined strategy on preventing obesity could cost less than a dollar per person and would pay for itself -- through reduced health care costs -- in half the

countries surveyed, and would become cost-effective in the others within 15 years.

In terms of greater health expectancy -- the number of years people live without developing chronic illnesses -- a combined strategy would add a million years across the population in India and four million in China in the next two decades, the researchers said.

A total of two million more years of good health would be added within two decades across Brazil, Mexico, Russia, South Africa and England.

Breaking down the costs for each country over the 20-year time frame, the study found the cost of gaining each year of healthy life would be \$270 in India and \$380 in China.

A coordinated strategy would include health promotion campaigns in mass media, taxes and subsidies to encourage people to eat healthier foods, compulsory food labeling and curbing advertising to children, the researchers, led by Franco

Sassi of the OECD, said in the study.

Being overweight or obese raises the risk of heart disease, diabetes, some cancers and arthritis -- all chronic diseases that require expensive and prolonged treatment.

According to the study, seven in 10 Mexican adults are overweight or obese. Nearly half of all Brazilians, Russians and South Africans are overweight or obese, and while China and India have lower levels of obesity, they are “rapidly moving in the wrong direction” it said.

Presenting a series of the *Lancet* papers at a briefing, health experts said chronic diseases now account for 60 percent of all deaths around the world every year and seeking ways to prevent them should be “a national and global priority.”

“Failure to prevent chronic disease is a political and not a technical issue -- we know what works,” said Robert Beaglehole of the University of Auckland, New Zealand. □

Many Kids Skipping Meals, Snacking Instead

Many U.S. children are eating more snacks and skipping breakfast and dinner, meals that provide nutrients critical to youngsters' development, behavior and overall health, a new survey has found.

The American Dietetic Association Foundation poll of 1,193 pairs of parents and children (aged 8 to 17) found that breakfast is sometimes missed by 42 percent of white children and Hispanic children, and 59 percent of black children. Breakfast is rarely or never eaten by 12 percent of white and Hispanic children, and 18 percent of black children.

Previous studies have found that missing breakfast is associated with increased school absenteeism and tardiness, poor attention to tasks and lower test scores, Katie Brown, national education director for the ADA Foundation, noted in an ADA news release.

The survey also found that dinner is not eaten all the time by 22 percent of white children, 34 percent of black children and 38 percent of Hispanic children. Dinner is rarely or never eaten by 3 percent of white children and 5 percent of black and Hispanic

children.

Snacks are often eaten to replace skipped meals, according to the survey. Snacking immediately after school was reported by 56.7 percent of white children, 57.8 percent of black children and 59.1 percent of Hispanic children. Regular snacking in the evening after dinner was reported by 24 to 26 percent of all the children, while about 23 percent of white kids, 30 percent of black kids and nearly 24 percent of Hispanic kids said they often or always ate snacks while watching television.

“The fact that children snack throughout the day provides an opportunity for parents and schools to offer nutrient-rich snacks to supplement any missed meals, and provide quality nutrition for children,” Brown said in the news release.

Among the other survey findings:

The proportion of daily family meals eaten at home increased from 52 percent in 2003 to 73 percent in 2010, and nearly 73 percent of children are now eating at home on school nights, compared with about 52 percent in 2003.

Most children (51.4 percent of whites, 56.5 percent of blacks, 63.8 percent of Hispanics) said their families never or rarely (less than once a week) eat at fast-food or sit-down restaurants.

School lunches are eaten by 56 percent of white children, 75 percent of black children and 65 percent of Hispanic children. Children from low-income families are most likely (82 to 89 percent) to eat school lunches.

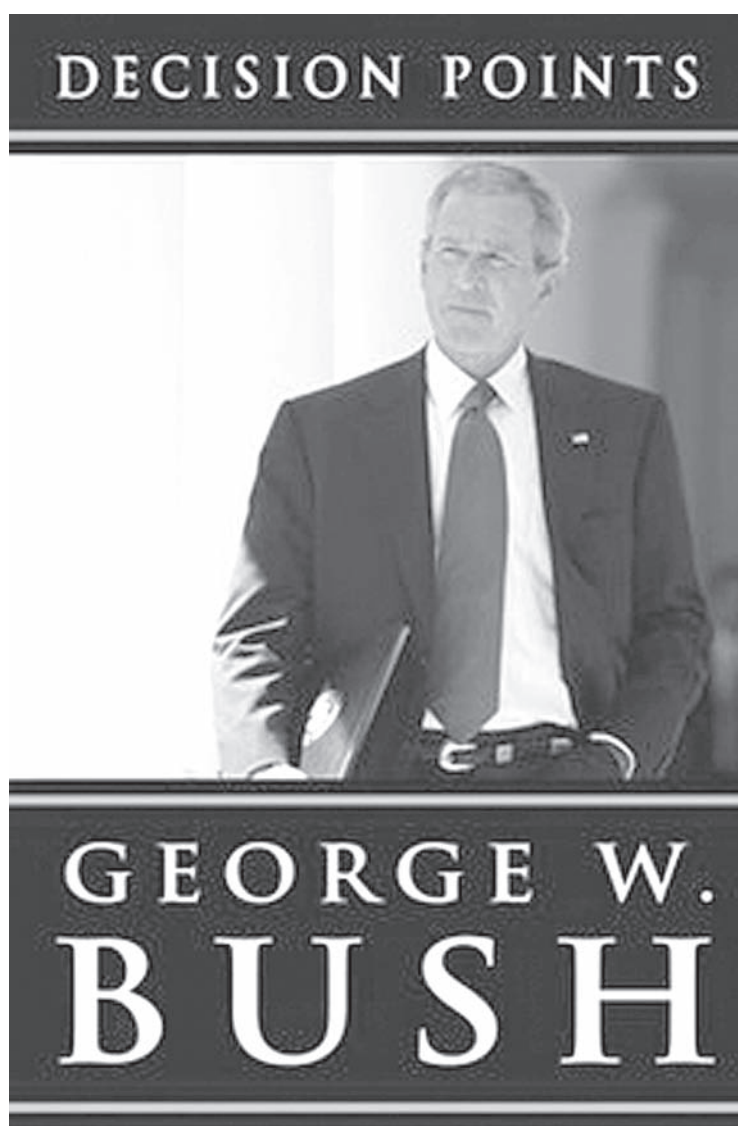
Most children said they would be more active if fun activities were offered before school (59 to 79 percent), during class (80 to 89 percent) or after school (77 to 92 percent). Most also said they would be more active if there were safe places to play in their neighborhood (66 to 86 percent) and if their friends wanted to be active (87 to 89 percent). Most families (64.4 percent) engage in sedentary activities (watching TV or movies or playing video games) three or more days a week.

The survey findings were released Nov. 9 at the ADA's Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo in Boston. □

Bush book not main selection of conservative club

By HILLEL ITALIE, AP National Writer
NEW YORK – Fitting for a presidential memoir, George W. Bush's "Decision Points" is a main selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club, the 84-year-old institution that offers top sellers and critical favorites at discount prices. Surprising for a memoir by a president whose "base" was more to the right than for any chief executive since Ronald Reagan, "Decision Points" is only an alternate at the Conservative Book Club, a 50,000-member organization founded in 1964 and adhering to the motto of "Conservatives Serving Conservatives." Editor-in-chief Elizabeth Kantor wouldn't offer a specific reason why Bush was not a main selection, a status granted to former top Bush aide Karl Rove's "Courage and Consequence." She did note, "It is true that conservatives have mixed feelings" about Bush and cited the No Child Left Behind Act and the growth of government during his administration. Bush's book, released Tuesday, sold at least 222,000 copies through its first day of sale, according to the Crown Publishing Group, and topped the best-seller list of Amazon.com even before release. But his standing in the conservative book club reflects an ongoing hesitation among some of his supposed core followers. Asked for comment, Crown spokesman David Drake responded: "As the president might say, I'm not going to wade back into the swamp." Conservatives will see a lot of Bush during his promotional tour. He is giving interviews to Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh and other favorites of the right, and will make a few appearances on the Fox News Channel. But he is not universally praised. Glenn Beck, for example, has called Bush a "progressive" Republican and suggested he helped pull Republicans away from conservative principles. "What do you think hurt the Republican Party?" Beck said on his radio show last year, referring to the 2008

election. "Do you think it was conservative values? Or do you think it was the progressive side of George W. Bush?" Marji Ross, president and publisher of Regnery Publishing, a sister company of the conservative book club, said that Bush will eventually rise among the right because of foreign policy and his stands on national security. But she acknowledged that, for now, conservatives fault him for not fighting hard enough to reduce the government. "That was certainly a weakness of his presidency," Ross says. "By the time he left office, there were certainly people on the right who were not happy with everything he did," says Adrian Zackheim, who heads the conservative imprint Sentinel at Penguin Group (USA) that next year will publish the memoir of Bush's secretary of defense, Donald Rumsfeld. "But one thing Bush's memoir can do is give everyone a big picture of what he did as president and remind conservatives of the many policies that they supported." The Conservative Book Club's current selections are far more focused on criticizing Obama than celebrating Bush, with popular works including Dinesh D'Souza's "The Roots of Obama's Rage," Laura Ingraham's "The Obama Diaries" and David Limbaugh's "Crimes Against Liberty." Among Regnery releases, Ross cited Mark Thiessen's "Courting Disaster," a defense of Bush's terrorism policies, but said she wasn't seeing books that offered a broad review of his administration. "We get proposals for books about conservative governing, but they're much more abstract, about how they want the government to be. They're not about returning to the Bush years or even to a Reagan set of principles," Ross says. In "Decision Points," Bush strongly backs his fiscal priorities. He refers to major tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003 and his efforts to set up overhaul social security, a longtime conservative goal.



In this photo released by Crown Publishers, the cover of George W. Bush's book 'Decision Points' is shown.

(AP Photo/Crown Publishers)
He includes charts showing reductions in spending and debt as a percentage of the overall domestic economy. He objected to "wasteful earmarks" proposed by Congress, but writes that he lacked a line-item veto — another conservative priority — to prevent them. But he also writes proudly of No Child Left Behind and his ability to work with a liberal champion, Sen. Edward Kennedy. Bush's book has respectful words for President Obama, finding him well-prepared and thoughtful at a financial crisis summit in 2008 that had been requested by Obama's rival for the presidency, Sen. John McCain. While Limbaugh and others have openly rooted for Obama to fail, Bush told Oprah Winfrey in an interview that aired this week, "I want our president to succeed. I love our country." Ross said she expected, and hoped for, tougher words in the upcoming memoir of Bush's vice president, Dick Cheney.

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SAN NICOLAAS

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Botica Oduber

San Nicolaas:

Botica Centro Medico

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Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

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Brandweer II	582-1108
Tipline di Polis	11141
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Police station	582-4000

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Police station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

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Amazon's Biodiversity May Have Andes to Thank: Study



Here broad flat plains wind through steep and rocky canyons clearly carved by ancient glaciers. Walking in these valleys, you may notice huge boulders left behind by the retreat of the ice and sinuous rivers cascading down from mountaintops covered in mist. If you look closer, you may notice life all around you too. Páramo ecosystems hold more than 5,000 different plant species, in addition to a variety of mostly endemic mammals, birds and amphibians found almost nowhere else.

Charles Q. Choi

The extraordinary biodiversity seen in the Amazon rainforest - one of the most species-rich ecosystems on Earth - may have evolved mainly due to the rise of the Andes, research suggests.

The Amazon, the world's largest river basin, is home to the largest rainforest on Earth, covering about 2.58 million square miles (6.7 million square kilometers) in nine countries. This area, known as Amazonia, holds a mind-boggling array of life, harboring one in 10 known species in the world and one in five of all birds.

"Many previously unseen species are discovered and documented every year," said

John Lundberg, curator of ichthyology at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

The origin of the amazing level of diversity seen in Amazonia has been debated for decades. It was long held that isolated patches of forest served as safe havens during cycles of aridity during the Pleistocene epoch (beginning about 2.5 million years ago and ending 12,000 years ago), refuges that served as incubators for diversity over the past 2.5 million years. However, in the 1990s, support for this idea crumbled after evidence for it was revealed to be a mistake based on how species were analyzed.

Now, recent findings regarding

the timing of changes in Amazonian diversity coupled with research into the slow rise of the Andes Mountains suggests the growth of this mountain range had a profound effect on Amazonia, with the area's diverse nature emerging well before the Pleistocene era - far earlier than previously thought.

The Andes began their rise about 34 million to 65 million years ago, when the tectonic plate diving under the Pacific edge of South America caused uplift.

The rising mountains that resulted from the uplift blocked humid air from the Atlantic, eventually increasing rainfall along the eastern flank of what became the Andes that

eroded nutrient-loaded soils off the mountains. The Andes also kept water from draining into the Pacific, helping form vast wetlands about 23 million years ago that were home to a wide range of mollusks and reptiles.

The global drop in sea levels and temperatures that started roughly 10 million years ago led the wetlands to dry up some 7 million years ago, after which point their rich soil became open to colonization by rainforests and a rapidly diversifying collection of trees and other plants. Further uplift of the Andes in the last 2.5 million years or so shifted river patterns and helped create varied landscapes that fostered even more diversity of life.

The emergence of the Panama isthmus connecting North America and South America 3.5 million years ago also led new mammals and birds to immigrate, completing the picture of Amazonia we have today, researchers suggest.

The immense rainforest still holds many secrets, said palaeoecologist Carina Hooen of the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. "Comparative work between modern and fossil forests is still needed to fully comprehend the evolution of the tropical rainforest," she told OurAmazingPlanet.

Hooen, Lundberg and their colleagues detailed these recent findings in the Nov. 12 issue of the journal Science. □

Mexico battle over Cancun tigers close to climax

By MARK STEVENSON,

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Cancun's "Pepe Tiger" may soon lose his big cats and his dream of opening a zoo near the sun-soaked Mexican resort city after a decades-long battle that has seen a mauling, animal cruelty charges and even claims of national sovereignty.

Mexican officials are preparing to remove the eight tigers and two jaguars kept by Jose Juarez Gil — or "Pepe Tiger" — saying they are being kept in unsafe conditions, a charge denied by Juarez Gil who says he loves the cats and lets them swim and run in his makeshift animal refuge on the road to Cancun's airport.

He vowed on Wednesday to fight their removal, saying he



Jose Juarez Gil, popularly known as Pepe Tigre, feeds 'Zetita', a 20-day old tiger cub, at his home in Cancun, Mexico, Tuesday Nov. 9, 2010. Juarez Gil, who has led a decades long struggle to open a zoo in Cancun, is facing new troubles after one of his adult tigers, the father of 'Zetita', injured a man on Monday. He claims there is a campaign to take away his animals and his land, while animal defense activists say he can't properly care for the tigers, some of which have died.

(AP Photo/Dario Lopez-Mills)

will appeal the latest seizure order.

"Do you think I am going to just leave my whole life behind?" asked Juarez Gil.

His surreal tale began in the 1980s, when police started turning over to him tigers and jaguars seized from the private zoos of drug traffickers and other criminals. In the following decades, shopping malls and luxury apartments sprung up around his land on the outskirts of Cancun, but he has stubbornly refused to give up his animals or his property. Court appeals had allowed his improvised refuge to limp on, despite what authorities and U.S.-based groups said were bad health and diet conditions for the big cats. □

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Presidente Calderón optimista sobre cumbre climática de Cancún

SEUL (AP) - El presidente mexicano Felipe Calderón dijo el jueves que el principal logro de la cumbre sobre el cambio climático será un acuerdo en la reducción de emisiones de carbono causadas por la deforestación, pero admitió que existe una fuerte resistencia política de algunas naciones para lograr acuerdos claves, como un tope para la temperatura global.

“Estamos logrando avances significativos en algunas áreas que nos permiten pensar en acciones inmediatas”, dijo el mandatario al participar en un foro empresarial paralelo a la cumbre del G20. “Hemos avanzado en (áreas como) transferencia de tecnología y financiamiento de largo plazo, y probablemente el avance más importante será en la reducción de emisiones causadas por la deforestación. Soy optimista en este lado de la ecuación”.

“Sin embargo, hay áreas cruciales donde aún se requiere acuerdo para garantizar progreso. Por ejemplo, la meta a largo plazo para mantener en dos grados centígrados el incremento de la temperatura global”, agregó Calderón al participar en un seminario sobre las llamadas “economías verdes”.

México trae al G20 el



El presidente mexicano Felipe Calderón saluda antes de subirse a una limusina al llegar al aeropuerto internacional Incheon, en Corea del Sur, el miércoles 10 de noviembre de 2010. (Foto AP/Bullit Marquez)

combate al cambio climático, ya que celebrará la próxima cumbre a fines de mes en Cancún. La edición previa, celebrada en Copenhague, causó una gran decepción cuando un enfrentamiento entre países ricos y pobres imposibilitó alcanzar un acuerdo vinculante, y apenas se logró que los países ricos se comprometieran a aportar 10.000 millones de dólares.

Calderón dijo que México persigue alcanzar acuerdos sobre el cambio climático porque “el convertirse en una economía emisora de poco carbono es crucial para el bienestar de las generaciones futuras. México cree que el mundo necesita una nueva era de acciones globales efectivas para combatir el cambio climático”.

Calderón realizó su ponencia de 15 minutos durante un foro empresarial que reúne a más de cien capitanes de empresas globales, horas antes de la cena inaugural de la cumbre del G20 prevista para la noche del jueves.

El G20 fue creado en 1999 y combina potencias económicas, países en desarrollo, poderes

emergentes y consumidores, además de productores de recursos naturales.

La cumbre culmina el viernes. Por otro lado, la subsecretaria de Relaciones Exteriores mexicana, Lourdes Aranda Bezaury, dijo en rueda de prensa que no se ha logrado coordinar la agenda de Calderón y la del presidente Barack Obama para una reunión bilateral durante estos días.

“No se ha descartado”, dijo. “Sin embargo, existe siempre la posibilidad de que en las diferentes reuniones en las que van a estar, y que en muchas de ellas, inclusive, estarán sentados juntos, puedan abordar temas bilaterales”.

Ricardo Ochoa Rodríguez, titular de la Unidad de Asuntos Internacionales de la Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, habló junto a Bezaury de los objetivos de México en la cumbre del G-20. Rodríguez dijo que el controversial tema de las tensiones sobre políticas monetarias del que se hablará en la cumbre “se ha de abordar desde una perspectiva de cooperación, entre los países, que nos permita coordinar las diferentes medidas de política macroeconómica que debemos de realizar”. □

Confiscan dos millones de dólares en Arizona

NOGALES, Arizona, EE.UU. (AP) - Más de dos millones de dólares de dinero en efectivo sin declarar fueron confiscados en dos accesos distintos del puesto de ingreso a Nogales, Arizona, informaron el miércoles autoridades federales.

Agentes de la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza detuvieron el lunes a una mujer de 42 años y a un hombre de 49 que volvían a México, de donde son originarios, en una camioneta. Los inspectores encontraron aproximadamente 1,1 millones de dólares escondidos en el techo del vehículo. El sábado las autoridades detuvieron a otra mexicana, de 24 años, que volvía a su país y encontraron 937.000 dólares en compartimientos de su camioneta.

Las autoridades dijeron que los tres fueron arrestados y entregados a funcionarios del Servicio de Migración y Control de Aduanas para ser enjuiciados. □

Lula advierte sobre riesgo de quiebra global

SEUL (AP) - El presidente brasileño Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva advirtió el jueves que el mundo iría a la quiebra si todos los países buscan crecer económicamente en base a las exportaciones y dijo estar más preocupado sobre cómo Estados Unidos revalorizará el dólar que sobre cómo Brasil necesita desvalorizar el real.

“Si los países más ricos no están consumiendo y todos quieren propagar su economía en las exportaciones, el mundo va a la quiebra porque no existe alguien para comprar. Todo el mundo quiere vender”, dijo el mandatario durante una conferencia de prensa justo antes de la cena inaugural de la reunión del G20.

“En este momento, estamos menos preocupados con las medidas que tenemos que tomar para desvalorizar el real, y más preocupados por las medidas que los americanos tienen que tomar para valorizar el dólar”, agregó.

“Estamos discutiendo desde el año pasado la posibilidad de comerciar en otras monedas,

sin el dólar como moneda intermediaria. Es teóricamente fácil, pero en la práctica la gente tiene miedo. Es un trabajo de convencimiento, el necesario para comenzar a hacerlo”, dijo Lula.

El mandatario se refirió a la decisión de la Reserva Federal estadounidense de comprar 600.000 millones de bonos del Tesoro durante los próximos ocho meses, con el objetivo de bajar las tasas de interés para estimular el crecimiento y reducir el alto desempleo.

Al ser la moneda referencia internacional, Brasil propondrá en la cumbre del G20 que estas decisiones sean consultadas previamente con los otros países que se ven afectados, especialmente los países pequeños con economías más frágiles, alegó Lula. Brasil y otros países emergentes sostienen que políticas monetarias como la estadounidense afecta a otros países porque encarece sus divisa y compromete su competitividad. □

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